



See page 2 for Year of the NCO articles.

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for June 10, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



ATC conducts training exercise, detonations

The U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground will support a training exercise June 8 through 12. Both day and nighttime exercises will be conducted.

Residents and boaters in the surrounding communities may hear weapons firing. Illumination devices may create flashes of light visible off post.

Activity may take place in the installation's restricted waters and include weapons and use of multiple watercraft.

ATC will conduct several large detonations, which are likely to generate sound and/or vibration outside the installation boundaries.

If weather conditions are not favorable, firing will be rescheduled.

For more information, call 410-278-1147, 410-278-1153 or 800-688-8705.

DES changes hours at gates

The operational hours of the Wise Road Gate have been temporarily extended to 10 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Wise Road Gate is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

MCSS announces new store hours

The APG Military Clothing Sales Store's new hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and closed on Sunday.

See SHORTS, page 6

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

Page 2

Year of the NCO: Focus on ATC NCOs; 20th SUPCOM NCOs ride with Aberdeen police

Page 3

20th SUPCOM train with ROK

Page 4

APG cemetery given face lift by scouts

Page 7

Community Notes

Page 8

Chapel News

Page 9

Well-Being addresses safety, events

Page 12

FMWR announces Army birthday events

Pages 15

Legally Speaking

Page 16

Health Notes; Safety

Page 17

APG youths spring into action

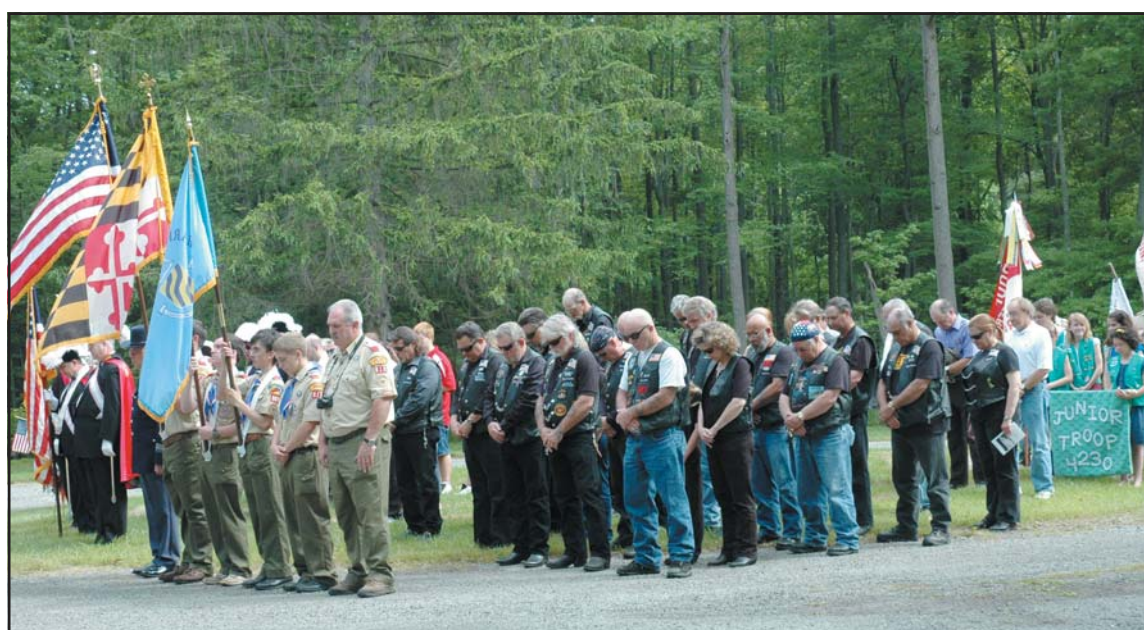
Memorial Day - A time to remember

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Early morning sunlight reflected off the freshly painted iron fence surrounding the neatly manicured graveyard containing more than 100 headstones - each marked with an American flag - as Soldiers, veterans, civilians and Family members gathered to pay homage to the fallen during the Memorial Day Tribute ceremony at the Edgewood Area Cemetery May 25.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Frederick Ellwein and the U.S. Army Materiel Command Band led a procession of veterans, scouts and supporters who marched to the cemetery in the morning's low but rising heat.

Awaiting the procession near the cemetery's entrance was Col. John R. Surdu, chief of staff of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command - the ceremony's guest speaker; Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Chaplain (Col.) Ruben Colon - who would deliver the invocation; Martin Marzicola, chaplain of Edgewood American Legion



Knights of Columbus, an Eagle Scout honor guard, Legion Riders, auxiliary members and Girl Scouts bow their heads for opening prayer during the Memorial Day Tribute hosted by American Legion Service Post 17 at the Edgewood Area Cemetery May 25.

Service Post 17, which hosted the ceremony and Timothy "Jake" Kluchinsky III of Boy Scout Troop 810 from Abingdon's Francis de Sales Church, who led a restoration and refurbishment project of the once tumble-down cemetery.

"Once again, we come together to celebrate the meaning of Memorial Day," observed

the program's host, Timothy J. Baird, past grand knight of the Knights of Columbus, Corpus Christi Council 6188.

Baird, who has hosted the ceremony for the past eight years, encouraged the gathered crowd to tell others about the annual observance.

"I ask everyone here to tell your Family and friends what

transpires here each Memorial Day," he said. "Freedom is not free, and we are poor beneficiaries if we fail to remember [the fallen]."

Surdu thanked all participants who helped make the event "special" and said that it was important "to remember those who go into harm's way

See REMEMBER, page 8

Military Appreciation Week luncheon honors APG's top service members

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground service members and Harford County business leaders came together in an annual celebration of the armed forces during the Military Appreciation Luncheon at Top of the Bay May 21.

Colonel Jeffrey S. Weissman, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, was the guest speaker for the program which featured the presentation of gifts and awards to the installation's top service members.

The Harford County Chamber of Commerce has sponsored the Military Appreciation Week event since 1978. Weissman said the luncheon provides the opportunity to reaffirm the strong bonds that exist between the installation and the community.

"Aberdeen Proving Ground and the Army appreciate your efforts as we share your com-

mitment to improve the overall quality of life throughout the community," Weissman said.

He encouraged listeners to look through the copies of the *APG News* and the *Military Appreciation Week Guides* that were placed on every chair.

"As you read through them, you will get to know us better," he said. "The guide tells all about the various tenant organizations that make up Aberdeen Proving Ground, and the *APG News* will give you an even better idea of day-to-day life here at APG. Both are available online."

He thanked *APG News* editor Debi Horne and her staff, "for their hard work on the guide and on the *APG News*."

"And, I want to thank all of you, our neighbors and partners, for your support, past and future," he said. "We are proud to be a part of your community."

Pete Bucha of Batelle, co-chair of the

chamber's Military Affairs Committee, and Bill Seccurro, the chamber's president and CEO, hosted the event.

Phil Logan of Slavia Federal Bank extended the chamber's welcome and said members were proud to express their continued support.

"We look forward to Military Appreciation Week to recognize the outstanding leadership at APG," Logan said.

Seccurro presented a special award to Bucha for his support of Military Appreciation Week, calling him a strong advocate for service personnel in Harford County. He thanked the Military Affairs Committee members who include George Mercer, APG Garrison public affairs officer, the APG Federal Credit Union and Homestead Publishing Company, which co-sponsors the special MAW insert for *The AEGIS*, *The*

See MILITARY, page 14



Photo by MAJ JOE SCROCCA

In this file photo Col. Ray Van Pelt, left, deputy commanding officer and senior chemical officer, 20th Support Command (CBRNE), prepares to present 1st Sgt. Tamiko Bogad with the Chemical Corps' Green Dragon award prior to Bogad's change of responsibility ceremony in the Edgewood Area of APG May 27. Van Pelt retires June 5.

CBRNE deputy retires after 30 year's service

Story by
ROGER TEEL
20th Support Command (CBRNE)

An Army officer who was instrumental in the evolution and development of the 20th Support Command (CBRNE) retires from active duty June 5.

Col. Raymond Van Pelt served as the 20th SUPCOM's operations officer in 2006 and as deputy commanding officer until his retirement.

However, Van Pelt's connection with the CBRNE Command pre-dates his assignment to it.

"I deployed with elements of the Exploitation Task Force, the 75th EXTf, during Operation Iraqi Freedom," Van Pelt said. "I deployed with guys like Lieutenant Colonels Tony Munera and Gerard Vavrina who are now on the 20th SUPCOM staff."

"Our mission was to go after Iraq's weapons of mass destruction program, to

find out where it was, exploit it and control it -- a lot of the things we now do in the 20th," Van Pelt explained.

"After I came back, I went to the War College at the National Defense University in Washington, D.C. I wrote a paper on the EXTf, addressing what we needed to do within the Department of the Army to move forward."

"I gave the paper to the staff at the counter proliferation center at NDU. They used a lot of the work I did, as well as the work of Colonel Barry Lowe, who was at Special Operations Command at the time. Many of our ideas eventually migrated into the 2006 Quadrennial Defense Review, the document that really stood up the CBRNE Command."

"And that all pre-dates the 20th SUPCOM, which was stood up in October 2004. I got here in 2006, so while I haven't been here since the inception of the command, I've been involved in its evolution and

See VAN PELT, page 14



APG celebrates The Year of the NCO



ATC NCOs see their mission as much more than '9-5' job

Story by
MIKE CAST
Developmental Test Command

In declaring 2009 the “Year of the Noncommissioned Officer,” the U.S. Army is recognizing how the standards and values of its NCOs are essential to making it one of the world’s most professional and formidable military forces. In peacetime and during conflicts such as the current war in Afghanistan and Iraq, the Army depends heavily on its NCOs to live up to and instill the warrior ethos that undergirds mission success and in many instances saves lives.

At Army test centers across the United States, the NCOs of the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command have a mission that differs from that of most Soldiers, but is every bit as crucial to the Army’s success.

Known as “SOMTE” Soldiers in Army jargon – the acronym standing for “Soldier Operator, Maintainer, Tester and Evaluator” – these NCOs are helping the Army capture the Soldier perspective on a wide range of combat systems under testing. It is a mission that contributes to saving Soldiers’ lives on the battlefield.

Several of the NCOs assigned to DTC’s Aberdeen Test Center recently discussed their mission and what the “Year of the NCO” means to them personally.

Staff Sgt. Cleo McKinnon

“I’m honored to represent the Army as an NCO,” said ATC’s Staff Sgt. Cleo McKinnon, who became an NCO in January 2003. McKinnon said he wanted to become an NCO to follow in his father’s footsteps and achieve the same goals his father had.

When asked what advice he would give to Soldiers wishing to become NCOs as well, he said, “Work to achieve the standards of an NCO, and when you set the standard, don’t let up.”

McKinnon gave credit to his Family for helping him achieve his goals.

“They have pushed me to



Photo courtesy of ATC
Sgt. 1st Class James Edington, left, and Staff Sgt. Rhea Ball are two of the noncommissioned officers assigned to the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center as Soldier Operator, Maintainer, Tester and Evaluator (SOMTE) troops.

work hard and make me believe I can accomplish anything if I work for it,” he said.

Master Sgt. James Orr

Orr, who became an NCO in 1992, oversees the group of NCOs at ATC. He said NCOs responsible for other Soldiers play a critical role by setting the standards for subordinates and in looking out for them.

“An NCO supports Soldiers by taking care of them through training to standard, training to survive on the battlefield and mentoring them personally and professionally,” Orr explained.

Like McKinnon and other NCOs at ATC, Orr feels honored to be a member of the Army’s NCO Corps. He said setting aside a year to honor NCOs was a good way for the Army to recognize everything NCOs

have accomplished in the past, are now accomplishing and will accomplish in the future.

“It is a way to recognize the NCO Corps for outstanding achievements and responsibilities inherent to us,” he added.

Orr has had a variety of assignments during his Army career, including overseas assignments to places such as Kosovo at the beginning of this decade, to Kuwait in 2003 in support of war efforts and then to Iraq in 2005 to serve with the 3rd Infantry Division.

He said that the most memorable assignment of his career was during the deployment to Iraq, when he served as a platoon sergeant for the 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment in Ramadi. Most memorable of all was the heartfelt support that

civilians at the airport gave to him and the other troops when they returned from Iraq, he said.

The most important character traits an NCO must possess are “duty, honesty and integrity,” Orr said.

Sgt. 1st Class James Edington

Sgt. 1st Class James Edington, who became an NCO in April 1996, added “willingness to share their knowledge with others and flexibility” to the character traits an NCO should possess. Being prepared to mentor younger Soldiers is an important character trait to him.

“In numerous ways, the NCO is their advisor, mentor and teacher,” he said.

An NCO he remembers as “Master Sgt. Bell” mentored him when he was a younger Soldier assigned at Fort Ord, California, he said.

Edington also feels honored that his country and the Army are recognizing NCOs. He said his current assignment at ATC is the most important one he has had so far because, as a SOMTE Soldier, he gets to do things that support other Soldiers across the Army.

“I can see the impact of my assignment on the whole Army, not just at the unit level,” he said.

Like others, he gives his Family a great deal of the credit for his success as a Soldier and NCO, saying he could always count on their “full support.”

Sgt. 1st Class Niko Troia

ATC’s Sgt. 1st Class Niko Troia, who became an NCO in 2001, said it is important for the Army to recognize the role that NCOs play because, “they silently serve without wanting to be recognized as the outstanding leaders that they are.”

He thinks taking care of Soldiers is one of the NCO’s most important responsibilities.

“As the NCO creed states, we are responsible for the welfare of the Soldier,” he said. “Without the Soldier, the mission does not get accomplished.

“Sun Tzu states in ‘The Art of War,’ ‘Regard your Soldiers as your children, and they will follow you into the deepest valleys; look on them as your own beloved sons, and they will stand by you even unto death,’” he quoted.

When asked what advice he would give to another Soldier considering becoming an NCO, he replied, “As an NCO, you will face those inevitable times when you must brace for rough weather, be ready for heavy workloads and unforeseen troubles. You will have to rely on yourself, and more importantly, your Soldiers to see you through.”

He said the leadership and example set by his senior drill sergeant in basic training made a big impression on him.

“He never asked us or told us to do anything he was not willing to do,” Troia said. “Every time we were told to do something, he did it with us. He led by, and set, the example to follow. He made an extreme impression on me that I have carried for thirteen years.”

The most important character traits an NCO must possess are the “Army Values,” a set of standards made clear to every Soldier in today’s Army. NCOs must master these and the “NCO Creed,” he said. He places special emphasis on the creed’s first seven words – ‘No one is more professional than I.’

Troia said he has had several mentors throughout various stages of his Army career, and one he remembered most clearly was an infantry major who had been an NCO himself before becoming an officer. This officer sent Troia to the Army’s Primary Leadership Development Course with two pieces of advice: that a leader must first be willing to serve, and that Troia should not return from PLDC without being its honor graduate, a feat Troia accomplished by being first out of 132 graduates.

20th SUPCOM Noncommissioned Officers ‘go for a ride’

Story by
QUENTIN MELSON
20th Support Command (CBRNE)

Two 20th Support Command (CBRNE) noncommissioned officers joined the Aberdeen Police Department for a ride with the Aberdeen chief of police May 18.

The ride was designed to strengthen ties between Soldiers on the Army’s oldest active proving ground and the “Future of Harford!” as the city’s motto attests.

Highlights of the day included a squad car ride along with the chief of police, a “meet and greet” with Aberdeen City Council members, and a tour of the Aberdeen Police headquarters. The joint event between APG and the City of Aberdeen was initiated by the Aberdeen Chapter of the Association of the United States Army.

“The ride along with the Aberdeen Police demonstrated how the APG community - specifically the 20th Support Command (CBRNE), AUSA, and the local Aberdeen communities – can all work well together,” said Mary Jane Jernigan, president of the Aberdeen Chapter of AUSA. “I consider it a bridging between the geographically co-located communities. This demonstrates our willingness to work together.”

As reward for their outstanding service, Staff Sgt. Tashika Prue and Staff Sgt. Kellie Steilow were chosen by 20th SUPCOM to participate in the ride along. They say they benefited from the experience.

“The ride along definitely increased my appreciation for what law enforcement officers do everyday,” said Steilow, a supply sergeant. “I had respect for what they did in the first place, but to be given a behind-the-scenes view of what goes on from the lowest level to what the chief of police does makes you appreciate the work they do even more. It seems like they are doing a great job. The statistics are amazing.”

The statistics Steilow referred to are the low percentages of major crime in and around Aberdeen. The Aberdeen Police Chief quoted recent figures.

“Serious crimes we report to the FBI have been consistently going down in the last few years,” said Randy M. Rudy, Aberdeen chief of police. “It has all been because of the guys and the gals in the police department making things work.”

The ride along was designed to give APG Soldiers an understanding and appreciation of parts of Aberdeen they may not ordinarily be exposed to. The trip to the city’s crime lab was the highlight for one 20th SUPCOM Soldier.

“Going to the Aberdeen Police Department Crime Lab was one of the cool moments of the ride along,” said Prue, a data system integrator. “I really liked seeing how the finger prints were analyzed. The chief showed how if they were unable to process fingerprints through dusting, then they would put the prints into a compartment, put chemicals on them, heat the

prints and analyze the results.”

Chief Rudy spoke with the two NCOs about Aberdeen’s history with APG and the important connection APG has with the city of Aberdeen.

“APG is part of the fabric that the city of Aberdeen is woven with,” Rudy said. “I’ve been here nine years and there has always been good interaction across the fence.”

The chief has an interesting personal history with the APG Directorate of Emergency Services. His relationship with the current director, Robert Krauer, goes way back.

“About twenty-five years ago Robert Krauer was in the Army CID [Criminal Investigation Division]. I was a detective sergeant with the state police. A case that I worked brought us together. After that case was over, we never saw each other again. Then, nine years ago, I ended up with this position and I was thinking to myself ‘I wonder who the APG provost marshal is?’

“I picked up the phone and found that it’s the same guy I worked with when I was with the state police. We renewed our old relationship and it has certainly been to the benefit of APG and to the city, because there was no testing the waters or determining a level of trust. We already knew each other.”

Community engagement events that APG has hosted have gone a long way to maintain the level of comfort that the city of Aberdeen has with the installation.

APG News

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Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday’s paper.

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20th SUPCOM conducts combined CBRNE training with ROK CBRNE forces



Courtesy of CJTF-E PAO
Brig. Gen. Jeffrey J. Snow, Combined Joint Task Force for Elimination commander, and Brig. Gen. Jae Ho Lee, commander ROK NBC Defense Command, observe a demonstration by members of the 110th Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort) and the CBRNE Analytical and Remediation Activity during operation Foal Eagle 09, the Combined Field Training Exercise conducted with members of the ROK NBC Defense Command March 17 in Korea.

Story by
SPC. AARON CARPENTER
CJTF-E Public Affairs Office

Operation Foal Eagle, the field training exercise associated with Key Resolve 2009 in the Republic of Korea March 14 through 17, was an opportunity for coalition Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and high-yield Explosives forces to demonstrate their capabilities during what turned out to be a stressful period for the US-ROK

alliance and North Korea. As North Korea threatened to launch what it claimed was a space satellite, tensions on the peninsula rose. The 1st Area Medical Laboratory, the 110th Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort), the CBRNE Analytical and Remediation Activity, ROK Chemical Special Forces and the ROK Mobile Analysis Laboratory integrated their efforts during the exercise. They displayed their capabilities to

Brig. Gen. Jeffrey J. Snow, Combined Joint Task Force for Elimination commander; Brig. Gen. Jae Ho Lee, ROK Chemical, Biological, Radiological Defense commander; and Brig. Gen. Kwan Heon Lee, ROK Army Chemical School commander, who observed the training exercise March 17.

“This exercise proved to be a great collective training event with our counterparts at the ROK NBC Defense Command, to learn from each other’s tactics, techniques and procedures,” Snow said.

“It’s important that the Republic of Korea understands we are committed to this alliance,” Snow added. “This exercise is just one way we can exchange lessons learned and build on our relationship in a productive and collaborative way.”

Lt. Col. Ken Pell, executive officer for 1st AML, said the opportunity to work with the ROK Defense Command during Operation Foal Eagle benefitted Soldiers from both countries.

“Our Soldiers were excited to train with their ROK CBRNE counterparts, and the types of questions the ROK CBRNE soldiers were asking shows me how interested they are to learn and how close we are in CBRNE capabilities, especially NBC testing,” Pell said.

The 1st AML and CARA are highly specialized in what they do and work predominantly from fixed sites, while the 110th Chemical Battalion (TE) has a variety of CBRNE capabilities that includes its technical escort mission.

“Our purpose is to analyze materials and do a presumptive field analysis,” said Sgt. 1st Class Shane Webber, team leader from Company B, 110th Chemical Battalion (TE).

An added benefit of 1st AML and CARA is their technical expertise when they retest the samples to provide a confirmatory analysis to validate the 110th’s field analysis, he said.

“The 1st AML and CARA provide that additional lab capability. They have PhDs and doctors who back up the science side of what we do,” Webber said.

The influence on the ROK forces was particularly evident in the command structure of the ROK’s 24th Chemical Battalion.

The 24th Chemical Battalion has been “converted into a weapons of mass destruction elimination battalion, developed along the lines of our CBRNE Response Teams,” Snow said.

Should a conflict break out on the Korean Peninsula, Key Resolve and exercises like Operation Foal Eagle will have been invaluable experiences for the service members and civilians involved. The collaboration and working relationships established during this training could be significant in combined missions on the battlefield, suggested several participants.

“In the future, if war rises up with North Korea, we will ask the United States to please help us,” said 1st Lt. Sarang Lee, a biological analyst with the Mobile Analyses Laboratory.

Lee said one major difference he saw during the exercise was the difference in priorities. ROK CBRNE soldiers concentrate on speedy results and U.S. Soldiers apply more of a deliberate process.

“Our objective of analysis is speed, it’s very important to analyze the agents as fast as we can,” Lee added.

Lee noted a procedural difference in how the United States obtains a sample.

“Their [U.S.] laboratories are running very systematically, such as the chain of custody, we don’t have that systematic factor right now,” Lee said.

“It’s to make sure from the first person who’s ever touched it all of the way to the last lab tech who’s touched it has accountability of the products,” Webber said.

The U.S. forces impose several administrative steps to ensure the chain of custody. When this is applied with the forensic capabilities of other units in and outside of the CJTF-E, valuable intelligence can be gathered that may reveal the extent and capabilities of an enemy WMD program, lead to the discovery of other WMD sites or to the arrest of scientists or others involved in the building of illegal weapons.

This was the second combined exercise on the Korean Peninsula for the CJTF-E and considerable progress is being made. That progress can be seen when the U.S. and ROK CBRNE forces train together.

“Operation Foal Eagle provides us with a means of evaluating our progress as a combined task force,” said Snow, “and based on conversations with my ROK counterparts and what I’ve seen here during the exercise, this training has been an invaluable experience for both sides, and I am looking forward to continuing this relationship in the coming years.”

Revitalizing the Edgewood Area cemetery

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

During the Memorial Day Tribute at the Edgewood Area Cemetery May 25, host Timothy Baird, Corpus Christi Council, asked listeners to applaud the work of Timothy “Jake” Kluchinsky III, an Eagle Scout candidate from Boy Scout Troop 810 of St. Francis de Sales Church who led a restoration and refurbishment project to clean up the cemetery.

Kluchinsky planned and organized the cleanup of the cemetery which included repair and painting of the fence and landscape upgrades.

“It is so good to see young men and women with real patriotism in their souls,” he said.

Kluchinsky shared the history of the site noting that it was established in 1918 and inactivated in 1968. He said that more than half of the 128 graves are of Family members and the rest Department of the Army civilians and Soldiers, most of whom were casualties of a 1918-1919 Swine Flu epidemic.

“Many of these unsung heroes rest in peace today in the shadows of the buildings represented by the Center for Health



Eagle Scout candidate Timothy “Jake” Kluchinsky III gazes at the flagged headstones of the Edgewood Area Cemetery after the May 25 Memorial Day Tribute. Kluchinsky led a restoration and refurbishment of the 91-year-old burial ground in the weeks prior to the ceremony.

Promotion and Preventive Medicine – formerly known as the Army Environmental Hygiene Agency,” Kluchinsky said. “All of these buildings, which are located along the road to this cemetery, were part of the thirty building hospital complex ... where most of those buried here died. May they always be remembered.”

Kluchinsky is the son or Dr. Timothy Kluchinsky, manager of the Health Hazard Assessment Program, Directorate of Occupational Health Sciences, CHPPM.

His mother, Aunika Kluchinsky who ran the food crew during the project, said she was impressed with both the ceremony and her son’s devotion to the project.

“As a parent it just amazes me,” she said. “He’s always one to be at the front of the line and he’s been working on this for the past year. This project required a lot of paperwork and planning and whenever he would read it to me it

would blow me away. It would be so elegant and proper. He put a lot of work into it, and I’m just very proud of him.”

Kluchinsky’s younger brother and co-scout member Shawn, 13, served as the project’s quartermaster, maintaining control of supplies. He said that executing a project means “more than just doing it.”

“It’s a long process,” he said, noting the long hours his brother spent documenting every detail; from coordinating with post officials, to obtaining materials, funds and volunteers, to submitting after-action reports.

He said that as he stood at the cemetery that morning, he thought about what they had accomplished.

“I was thinking that it turned out very nice,” he said. “It was a very good day.”

Post 17 provided funding for the project, according to post commander Leonard Sill, with the Sons of American Legion donating \$150 and the Auxiliary donated \$267.

According to Kluchinsky’s records, total planning consisted of 69.50 hours; repair and cleanup took 73 hours; painting, 131 hours and the final report took 20 hours for a total of 369.40 hours from start to finish. Kluchinsky’s tasks included assigning position leaders for safety, quartermaster, photographer and parking; preparing written instructions for each task; assembling volunteers and obtaining permits.

Carol Carden, Post 17 Auxiliary president, and her husband David Carden, a Navy veteran, said the post readily

donated funds for the restoration.

“It was good to see him and talk to him today and to look at the wonderful results,” Carol Carden said. “He did a great job.”

Olivia Webster, 14, of Girl Scout Troop 4230 was the publicity leader for the project. She said the juniors and cadets who helped with the cleanup were happy to help Kluchinsky.

“We helped paint the fences and cleared brush,” Webster said. “It was a nice feeling to see it today because we put a lot of work into it.”

Kluchinsky and his father also arranged for a military aircraft flyover which took place at the end of the Memorial Day Tribute.

Captain David Paolucchi, operations officer for the Maryland National Guard’s Combat Aviation Brigade at the Edgewood Area’s Weide Army Airfield, said they were glad to help.

“We have requests all the time for certain holidays,” Paolucchi said, noting that the four Blackhawk helicopters flew in a diamond formation. He said the pilots were members of Company C, 2/224th Aviation. “We’re happy to do it as long as we have the crew and resources available. We have an obligation to support the community.”

The team flew over ceremonies in Bel Air and Perry Hall the same day, and Paolucchi said they will support 4th of July ceremonies in Bel Air and Crisfield and in Havre de Grace July 5.

AICD annouces PR cutoff dates for 2009

RDECOM

The Aberdeen Installation Contracting Division--formerly known as the APG DOC under the Army Contracting Agency and is now positioned as a division under the RDECOM Contracting Center--has established the division's fiscal year 2009 cutoff dates for submission of purchase requests.

Early customer support in identifying and submitting PRs by or before the dates shown below greatly enhances the ability of the AICD to meet customer needs. Between Aug. 15 and Sept. 30, the AICD receives more than 2,500 PRs for FY-end award. Early planning and coordination remain the keys to a successful year-end.

The AICD encourages customer activities to coordinate their projected FY-end requirements with the AICD during the third quarter in order to discuss acquisition methods and identify those documents, reviews, and approvals required to accompany the procurement package.

Incomplete procurement packages will not be accepted by the AICD during September and any "SAF" (Subject to Availability of Funds) actions will be accepted only by an AICD branch chief. All PR must be submitted to the AICD electronically.

APG activities should consider maximizing use of their Government Purchase Cards to execute small dollar transactions for authorized items rather than submitting a purchase request to the AICD.

The following schedule has been established for the submission of PRs for FY 09 and maintenance for FY 10. These cutoff dates are not only for the PR, but includes all supporting documentation and approvals.

- Noncommercial Items over \$100,000 – July 1*
- Noncommercial Items between \$2,500 for services; \$3,000 for supplies; \$2,000 for construction and \$100,000 – Aug. 1
- Commercial items between \$100,000 and \$5 million – July 1
- Commercial Items under \$100,000 – Aug. 15
- Services Over \$100,000 – July 1
- Delivery Orders and Task Orders Under Existing Contracts – Aug. 1
- GSA Schedule Procurements – Aug. 1
- Short-of-Award over \$2,500 – June 15**
- Maintenance for FY 2010 – July 1 (FY 10 Contract Modifications and

Options for Existing Maintenance Contracts)

** There may be instances where this date may not be adequate for complex actions. It is therefore required that these actions be coordinated with the branch chief prior to this date.*

***Customers submitting "short-of-award" PRs, especially for services requirements, must seriously consider whether funding will materialize. A substantial amount of effort is expended to prepare these pending actions and they must be prioritized after PRs that are funded and PRs that are subject to the availability of funds.*

The above lead times can be affected by various factors, a few of which include: competition requirements, to include fair opportunity for services task orders over \$100,000 when using Federal Supply Schedules; acquisition plan and/or strategy reviews and approvals; obtaining sole, limited source, brand name or urgency approvals – the Justification and Approval process; the review process accomplished by the Small Business Advisor to ensure all socio-economic programs will be appropriately addressed; front-end PR entry, and PD2 (PD2 is the DoD contracting automated system used at APG).

Other requirements affecting lead times

When placing sole source orders over micro-purchase thresholds (FAR 2.101: \$3,000 for supplies; \$2,500 for services subject to Service Contract Act; \$2,000 for construction subject to Davis-Bacon Act) under Federal Supply Schedules, a Justification and Approval must be prepared and approved by a Contracting Officer.

When purchasing supplies or services over the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$100,000) using non-DoD contract vehicles (which includes placing orders with GSA), proposed actions must be reviewed and approved considering:

If the action is in the Best Interest of the Government – satisfying customer requirements, schedule, cost effectiveness (taking into account, discounts and fees) and contract administration including oversight.

Other factors which must be addressed: determining that tasks or supplies ordered are within the scope of the contract; ensuring funding is used in accordance with appropriation limitations; providing unique terms, conditions and requirements for incorporation into an order or contract to comply with all applicable

DoD-unique statutes, regulations, directives and other requirements (e.g., all clothing, shoes and other items specified under the Berry Amendment, procured with DoD funding, is of domestic origin); and collecting data on the use of assisted acquisitions for analysis.

All service requirements must be approved for purchase prior to submittal to the AICD IAW established agency procedures as directed by the Secretary of the Army memo, Army Policy for Civilian Hiring and Initiation/Continuation of Contracts for Service Personnel, Feb. 23, 2006. Go to <http://www.asamra.army.mil/insourcing/> to obtain approval forms and view associated regulations.

Information Technology: Desktop and Notebook Computer Purchases. To maximize cost savings, all Army desktops and notebooks 'shall' be ordered through the Consolidated Buy program utilizing the Army Desktop and Mobile Computing Agreements. For policy memo issued by the Army's Chief Information Officer on July 22, 2005, Buying Schedule, Specs and Pricing, Submittal Instructions, Request Preparation, Exceptions, and Frequently Asked Questions, visit the Consolidated Buy page at: https://asep.monmouth.army.mil/scp/cb/cb_index.jsp. Requests for these items must be submitted to the Directorate of Information Management. For standard requests, DOIM will approve the request and forward it to the AICD for processing. For non-standard requests, DOIM will review and validate the request and then forward it to AICD.

For more information, contact the Chief, Technology Team, 410-278-0883

The contracting officer is responsible for and this office's policy is to determine the best method of procuring any supply or service based upon regulation, urgency, delivery, socio-economic concern and competition which provides the best value at a reasonable price.

Submission of requests after the scheduled dates will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will require approval by the chiefs of the Branches. The AICD will do as much as possible to assist customers in satisfying their requirements after the cutoff dates. However, the division has a limited capability to process late requirements.

Individual contacts

- Renee Hodge (Acting), Installation Contracting Branch: jacqueline.renee.hodge@us.army.mil, 410-278-0881
- Facilities Team: For repair, alteration, construction, sale and removal of excess real property, services for base operations functions (including, but not limited to, utilities privatization, custodial, refuse, underground utilities locating, etc.), equipment-in-place and facilities, contact Kandi McDonald, kandi.mcdonald@us.army.mil, 410-278-2372.
- Technology Team: For information technology equipment and services; word processing equipment; software; general, specialized, and test equipment; instrumentation; supplies; and IT maintenance, contact Scot Plank, scot.plank@us.army.mil, 410-278-0886.
- Renee Hodge, Mission Contracting Branch: jacqueline.renee.hodge@us.army.mil, 410-278-0881

See PRS, page 9

Post Shorts

For more information, call Jennifer Hubbard, APG MCSS store manager, 410-272-1312.

Army Birthday Ball June 16

Register now the 2009 Army Birthday Ball. The U.S. Army Birthday Ball will celebrate America's Army, 5:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., June 13, at the Hilton Washington located on 1919 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, D.C.

This year's event pays special tribute to noncommissioned officers, the backbone of the Army.

Tickets cost \$85 with a limited number of discounted tickets at \$40 per person available to GS-7, E-7 and equivalent NSPS pay band members on a first-come, first-served basis. The event is open to Army members, National Guard, Reserve, DA civilians, government contractors, Family members, retirees, veterans and invited guests.

Additional details available on the AKO Army Birthday Ball Web site.

234th Army Birthday Specialty Meal June 15

The 234th Army Birthday Specialty Meal will be held in the Aberdeen Area dining facilities, buildings 4503 and 4219 and the Edgewood Area dining facility, building E-4225, 5:30 to 7 p.m., June 15.

During this event all military personnel, Family members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine.

The meal rate of \$7 applies to any officer, enlisted member, and Family member of sergeant or above, DoD civilian, retiree and their guests. The discount meal rate of \$5.95 applies to spouses and other Family members of enlist-

ed personnel in ranks private through specialist/corporal.

The menu includes: buffalo wings with bleu cheese dressing, grilled steak with sautéed mushrooms and onions, broccoli cheese and rice casserole, barbecue ribs, pizza burger, chili dogs with cheese and onions, chicken tenders, grilled polish sausage, submarine sandwiches, freedom fries, onion rings, potato chips and pretzels, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, baked potato, baked sweet potato and all the fixings, buttered corn, cauliflower combo, Southern style potato and macaroni salad, cole slaw with creamy dressing, assorted condiments, hot dinner rolls, corn bread, assorted breads, Army birthday cake, apple pie, big chocolate chip cookies, watermelon, assorted fresh fruits, soft serve ice cream with assorted toppings, assorted condiments and assorted beverages.

Note: Menu is subject to change without prior notification.

For more information, call Edward Parylo or Ernest Green, 410-306-1393/1398.

Public invited to APG Army Birthday Ball June 12

The public is invited to the Army Birthday Ball, 6 p.m., June 12 at Top of the Bay on Aberdeen Proving Ground. Tickets cost \$45 per person and will include an evening of dinner, dancing, celebration and fun. Dress is mess dress for military, black tie for civilians, formal wear for ladies. No tickets will be available at the door.

For more information or to RSVP online, visit <http://www.apgmwr.com/Store/armyball.html>.

New arrivals required to attend Newcomers' Orientation

All newly arriving Soldiers and civilian employees are required to attend to APG Newcomers' Orientation, 1 to 3 p.m., June 17 at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326. Sponsors are encouraged to bring their Family members, and all members of the APG community are welcome to attend.

More than 50 APG community activ-

ities and organization representatives will welcome arrivals with handouts and literature and will answer questions regarding their programs.

Each unit/activity is requested to report the number of attending personnel to Phyllis Ethridge, Army Community Service, building 2754, 410-278-9669/7572, fax 410-278-9685 or e-mail phyllis.ethridge@us.army.mil.

(Editors Note: More Shorts can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Shorts.)

Patriotic display welcomes visitors



Photo by JANET DETWILER, HR
Employees of the Trainee/Student Processing Work Center, Military Personnel Office, Directorate of Human Resources really know how to show their patriotism. "This is our way of saying 'Thank You' to all the Soldiers," said Joy Buckman. This display is right inside their door, greeting visitors as they enter. Stop by building 4305 room 111.

Community Notes

THURSDAY

**JUNE 4
SUNSET CRUISE**

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Sunset Cruise, 7 to 9 p.m., on the skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$25 for adults and \$15 for children ages 10 and under. The ship will cruise around the Susquehanna Flats. Reservations are required. For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY

**JUNE 5, 6 AND 7
BAREFOOT IN THE PARK**

Phoenix Festival Theatre presents Neil Simon’s Barefoot in the Park. Shows will be held 8 p.m., June 5 and 6 and at 3 p.m., June 7 at the Chesapeake Theater, Harford Community College, 401 Thomas Run Road, Bel Air. Take a walk in the park with newlyweds Corie and Paul Bratter as they set up house in a minuscule fifth-floor walkup apartment in a downtown-Manhattan brownstone. In addition to adjusting to married life, Paul, a straight-laced attorney and Corie, a free spirit, must contend with a lack of heat, a skylight with a gaping hole, several long flights of stairs, oddball neighbor Victor Velasco and Corie’s well-meaning mother. Assigned seating costs \$9 to \$18. Box Office opens 45 minutes prior to curtain. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 443-412-2211.

SATURDAY

**JUNE 6
NATIVE AMERICANS HONOR VETERANS**

The Perry Point Veterans Administration Medical Center and its Native American Program Committee will host the 2009 Natives Honoring Veterans Festival, noon to 1 p.m. at the front gate picnic grounds. The theme is Eagles Nest 2009 – Native Americans Honoring Veterans. The focal point of the festival is the grand entry, when veterans from all wars and conflicts attending the festival are positioned at the entrances of the four directions in the dance circle. This event is free and open to the public, and will be held rain or shine. For more information, call Margaret Hornberger, 410-642-2411.

DAY AT THE RACES CRUISE

The Chesapeake Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Day at the Races Cruise – The Belmont, 7 to 9 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Celebrate Maryland horse racing with finger foods and traditional race day drinks. Tickets cost \$40 per person. Reservations are required. For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

**THE ULTIMATE JAZZ
EXPERIENCE IS BACK**

The Charlton-Miller Veterans of Foreign War Post 6054, located at 206 Spesutia Road, Perryman, will feature one of Baltimore’s hottest Jazz/R&B Bands – ‘Beyond Blue’ from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tickets cost \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door. There will be a free light buffet while it lasts. For more information or directions, call 410-272-3444.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

**JUNE 6 AND 7
FREEDOM HILLS BENEFIT
RIDE-A-THON**

Freedom Hills Therapeutic Riding Program Inc. will hold its Annual Trail Ride, Ride-A-Thon and Walk-A-Thon at Fair Hill Natural Resource Area located on 300 Tawes Drive, Elkton, Md. The event will benefit the physically, mentally and emotionally challenged at Freedom Hills Therapeutic Riding Program. The Ride-A-Thon, Trail Ride and Walk-A-Thon is open to everyone. Bring friends and Family to walk or ride; participants are welcome to ride their bikes or walk the trails separate from the horses. Camping and RV spaces are available. For more information, to collect sponsors, to register, or for sponsor forms, visit **www.freedomhills.org** or call Renee Sherrard-Luter, 410-378-3817, toll free 1-866-431-6874, Dorothy Schauer, 410-378-3817, e-mail back-

countryride@yahoo.com, or FHTRP@freedomhills.org.

SUNDAY

**JUNE 7
MUSICA ANTIQUA CONCERT**

The acclaimed group Musica Antiqua will perform a free concert 2 p.m. at the Liriodendron Mansion located on 502 West Gordon Street, Bel Air. The concert will celebrate musical anniversaries of Cole Porter, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Hawaii’s statehood, World War II hits and more. For more information, call 410-879-4424.

SUNSET CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Sunset Cruise, 7 to 9 p.m., on the skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$25 for adults and \$15 for children ages 10 and under. The ship will cruise around the Susquehanna Flats. Reservations are required.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

FRIDAY

**JUNE 12
MARGARITAVILLE CRUISE**

The Chesapeake Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Margaritaville Cruise, 7 to 9 p.m., on the skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$40 per person (21 years of age or older). Set sail with island tunes and light refreshments. Margaritas, beer and soda included. Reservations are required. For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

(Editors Note: More calendar events can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Community Notes.)

APG School Liaison

Host Families needed for exchange students

AFS (formerly the American Field Service) a nonprofit exchange program, needs Families to host high school students for an academic year or six months. Students arrive in August.

Many types of Families can host - two-parent households with young children or teenagers, single-parent Families, Families with adopted children, foster parents, including couples and single people who do not have children or who have grown children.

One of the most important characteristics of host Families is being eager to share their life and activities while providing the same kind of care, support, and comfort as you would to your own child or Family members.

AFS students come from more than 40 countries and represent many different cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. Local AFS volunteers enroll students in high school and support students and their Families to help both gain the most from their experience.

In addition to host Families, AFS needs people who are interested in becoming volunteer liaisons to work locally with Families and their hosted students.

For more information or to become a volunteer host, visit www.afsusa.org/hostfamily, or call 1-800-876-2377.

For more information on any APG school related topic, contact Eileen Campbell, 410-278-2857 or e-mail eileen.campbell@apg.army.mil.

Chapel News

Commentary: Praising the day, life



By
**CHAPLAIN (CAPT)
KURT O'DONNELL**
16th Ordnance Battalion

Friends, today is a wonderful day to celebrate what God has done in our lives and to share those things with others.

Your ministry is never finished until God decides to take you home (Eccl. 3).

I remember preaching and ministering in an elderly home next to our church in Gurnee, Ill. It was there that I really understood what life is about; it was there that I learned to share my faith in Jesus Christ; it was there that I saw God's joy sing through those who have lived well.

One lady taught in the Illinois school system for 30 years. She was severely handicapped with internal bleeding within her stomach. When she wasn't having her stomach pumped, she would visit with her daughter and attend church services just to hear God's word preached. She loved the Lord well.

Another lady was a descendant of Daniel Boone. She was in her late 80s, in a wheelchair, and was paralyzed on one side of her body from a stroke. The radi-

ance of the Lord beamed from her face. She couldn't wait for visitors because that gave her an opportunity to share Christ's love with them. She would also teach others at the home how to minister through their life story. She loved the Lord well.

There is a contemporary song that I heard sung by a Christian homeschool chorus group a few years ago that still plays in my mind. This song sings through the two elderly lady's lives, and I pray that it will sing through your life as well.

From the corners of creation
Come the people of the Living God.
Ev'ry tongue and ev'ry nation
Gather now to praise the Lord!

If we keep our voices silent,
All creation will rise and shout.
If we fail to praise You, Father,
Then will the very rocks cry out.

From a world of tribulation
Come and let your voice be raised.
Join us now in congregation.
Let the Living God be praised.

If we keep our voices silent,
All creation will rise and shout.
If we fail to praise You, Father,
Then will the very rocks cry out.
Romans 15:13 says, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit"... And may that hope cry out as a guiding light for others to hear and see.
Amen

Remember

From front page

for the sacred cause of freedom."

He watched the observances beginnings and said that regrettably, "many have forgotten the meaning of Memorial Day."

"Today, American men and women continue to serve and sacrifice," Surdu said. "The price of freedom is eternal vigilance. We must keep the spirit for which they fought so bravely. We can pay them no greater honor than to cherish that shared legacy of freedom. I ask you, also, to remember those Families who are left behind ... [and] I urge each one of you to keep our service members, including our civilians, in your thoughts and prayers. May God bless our Soldiers and may God bless America."

The program ended with the firing of a salute by Soldiers from the 20th Support Command (CBRNE) salute battery, led by Staff Sgt. James Stewart, then a lone bugler played TAPS and the band followed with the national anthem before leading the procession out of the area.

Participating groups included representatives of American Legion Service Post 17, including the Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion and the American Legion Riders; Veterans of Foreign Wars Harford County Memorial Post 5337, including the Auxiliary; Knights of Columbus, St. Xavier Assembly; Knights of Columbus, Corpus Christi Council 6188; Boy Scout Troop 802, Aberdeen; Boy Scout Troop 810, Abingdon; and Girl Scout Troop 4230, Abingdon.

Several participants and guests commented on the significance of the annual observance.

Retired Sgt. 1st Class Robert Bauerle, troop committee chairman with Boy Scout Troop 802, Aberdeen, whose members also assisted with the cemetery restoration, said the troop makes a point to participate every year.

"We're a small group but like every other troop, patriotism and showing pride in your country is important to us," Bauerle said. He added that those interested in joining the troop can contact him at 410-272-2921 or Scoutmaster Bill Fuentes at 410-272-6440.

Keith Sandlass, commander of the Post 17 Sons of American Legion, said the group exists to support American Legion programs.

"A lot of us are veterans or sons of veterans, so, to us, celebrating Memorial Day or Veterans Day is very special," he said. "It's a natural thing."

He added that APG Soldiers and their Families are welcome to join the post.

"We're here for the Soldiers and their Families," he said. "They're welcome to come in, relax and join in our activities. And the first year membership for Soldiers is free."

Sandlass thanked Bob Parrish, president of American Legion Post 148 in Essex for joining the procession that morning.

"They support us in everything we do, and we try to do the same," Parrish said.

Mary McCann, Post 17 adjutant and membership chair, said the post is more than just a place to play Bingo.

"We host parties and special events, and we have a full lunchtime menu open to the public in our hall which is available for rental to non-profit groups," she said, adding, "we have a large [4th] of July celebration coming up. Soldiers get all the privileges of membership and they and their Families are welcome to come be a part of our Family."

**Visit APG News
online at
[www.apgnews.
apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil)**

May Well-Being meeting highlights upcoming summer events, safety issues

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

The members of the Aberdeen Proving Ground community met at the Aberdeen Area Post Chapel May 21 to discuss upcoming events. Tim McNamara, deputy to the garrison commander, led the meeting and welcomed guests.

McNamara said that there was a good turnout to Armed Forces Day on May 16, especially since the APG celebration was the first and one of the largest that was opened to the public since the 9-11 terrorist attacks.

McNamara added that the post is booming with construction projects, and asked that motorists on APG pay special attention to changing traffic patterns, as there has been an increase in traffic accidents on post.

McNamara then turned the meeting over to Celestine Beckett, director of Army Community Service.

Commissary

Ann Morrison, manager of the Commissary, announced that the Commissary can provide platters for parties which include wraps, sandwiches, cookies, fruit, vegetables and fruit baskets. She said customers need to order platters 48 hours in advance. Commissary items are sold to authorized customers, meaning those with a military identification.

KUSAHC

Deborah Dodsworth, patient advocate for Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, told attendees about the KUSAHC appointment access. Patients should call 410-278-5475 to reach the Call Center to make appointments. The 800 number is 1-866-756-5475. If there are no available appointments that day, ask to speak to the triage nurse, 410-278-1760.

Dodsworth added that TRICARE Online enables patients to make online appointments with the assigned Military Treatment Facility primary care managers. Confirmations should be printed out from personal computers.

Dodsworth said that for routine medical assistance during evenings, weekends and federal holidays, call Staff Duty at 410-278-1725. The Staff Duty Officer will coordinate with the Medical Officer of the Day and initiate the referral, if needed. Without authorization, patients may be responsible for copayments for care provided at other facilities. For true emergency situations, call 911. KUSAHC does not have an emergency room. Patients are urged to plan accordingly for any medication needs.

Patients can receive flu vaccines by calling the flu vaccine hotline at 410-306-3588. Flumist is available for all healthy individuals, ages 5 to 49. No option will be given if patient qualifies to receive the nasal vaccine.

Tobacco cessation classes are offered at KUSAHC. Those who wish to partic-

ipate must sign up for the class because size is limited. For more information, call preventive medicine, 410-278-1964.

Over the counter medication classes are offered through KUSAHC. For information, call Community Health Nursing, 410-278-1771.

There is a quarterly Health Consumer meeting held at KUSAHC to address varied health issues. Everyone is encouraged to come.

“This is a good way to impact APG’s health care system directly,” she said.

Dodsworth added that students should get their physicals early in the summer to prepare for the 2009-2010 school year.

For more information call Dodsworth, 410-278-1724.

DES

Robert Krauer, the director of Emergency Services, announced that the Drug Abuse Resistance, or D.A.R.E., graduation was successful, with 75 children from APG graduating. Krauer added that the children are very enthusiastic about the program.

Krauer asked attendees to pay special attention to the changes in road conditions as traffic accidents have increased on post. He advised motorists to always be alert of the conditions around them. See the *APG News* for traffic changes.

He added that with the warmer weather, more people will be ridding motorcycles, and said that it is important for people to share the road with the motorcyclists.

Krauer concluded that he is pleased to announce that the majority of people on post are wearing their seatbelts. Police officers are checking to make sure that seatbelts are being worn as part of the Click it or Ticket campaign.

“I am proud that the vast majority of people (entering on post) are doing what they are supposed to do,” he said.

FMWR

Chris Lockhart, marketing director for Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, made several announcements regarding upcoming FMWR events, and said that FMWR offers many activities for the summer.

The pools on post opened memorial weekend, and passes for the pools are now available. For more information, call 410-278-4124/5789 for the Aberdeen Area, 410-436-2713/3595 for the Edgewood Area, or go to www.apgmwr.com/recreation/odr/swimming.html or visit *APG News* online, www.apgnews.apg.army.mil, archive issue May 28.

A Texas Hold’em Tournament will be held 1 p.m., June 13, at Top of the Bay. Tickets can be bought online at www.apgmwr.com/Store/texasholdem_encore.html.

FMWR will be hosting an Army Birthday Celebration Ball at Top of the Bay June 12. Tickets are \$45, Advance RSVP; no tickets will be available at the

door. For more information, visit www.apgmwr.com/Store/armyball.html.

Ruggles Golf Course in the Aberdeen Area will be having a grand re-opening on Father’s Day weekend, June 19 thru 21 with special events and giveaways throughout the weekend. For more information, visit www.apgmwr.com/recreation/golf/events.html.

Brooks and Dunn will be performing at APG on August 15, with Pat Green and Joey+Rory as opening act.

Information about other FMWR events and activities can be found at www.apgmwr.com/store/concert_tickets.html.

Safety Office

Jenelle Ferguson, from the Installation Safety Office, asked attendees to use caution while participating in summer activities like traveling, camping, swimming, biking or barbecueing. Information and safety tips relating to summer activities can be found on the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center’s Web site, <https://safety.army.mil>. Clicking on the Safe Summer 2009 icon at the bottom of the page will open resources aimed at providing tips and tools to make summer activities safe.

ACS

Marilyn Howard, a representative from Army Community Service, told attendees that the Army Family Action Planning conference will be held June 30 thru July 1, at Top of the Bay. The AFAP is a vehicle for providing input from the people of the Army to Army leadership. Some issues are dealt with at the local level, while others are forwarded to higher commands for resolution.

Pre-conference training will be held June 25 at Top of the Bay. For more information, call Howard, 410-278-9669.

The Volunteer of the Year ceremony, honoring APG’s volunteers, will held 7 p.m., June 4, at Top of the Bay.

There will be a newcomer’s orientation June 17, Aug. 12 and Nov. 18, in the Aberdeen Proving Ground Recreation Center, building 3326. Orientation is held from 1 to 3 p.m. For more information, call 410-278-2464/410-278-7572.

The Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program and Child Youth and School Services SKIES Unlimited program in partnership with the Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Union will hold a Job vs. Career class for teens, ages 13 through 18, 12:30 to

1:30 p.m., June 24 and July 29, Army Community Service classroom building 2754. The ACS Employment Program and Tina Mike, APGFCU Education director, will help guide teens through the job and career preparation process so they can achieve their own employment success. To enroll teens in this free class, call Howard, 410-278-9669.

Chapel

Gerri Merkel, director of religious education from the Post Chapel, announced that there will be an ecumenical youth cook out for all Chapel youth, Protestant, Gospel and Catholic 4 to 6:30 p.m., June 13. The event will feature games, mixers and prayer, and will be held at the APG Main Post Chapel Fellowship Hall, for grades 6 thru 12 and youth leaders.

There will also be planning for summer activities on Sunday nights during the summer.

For more information, call 410-278-2516.

All APG children ages 5 through grades 6 are invited to Scriptural and fun Vacation Bible School 6 to 8:45 p.m., June 15 thru 19, at Main Post Chapel. The theme is: “Rome: Paul and the Underground Church.” There will be child care for all adult volunteers. Registration forms are in the entrances of the chapels or contact Sandra Hohmann, sathe29@aol.com, Olivia Wheaton, wheatonhead@yahoo.com or Gerri Merkel, gerri.merkel@conus.army.mil or call 410-278-2516.

There will be a Strong Bonds marriage conference July 29-31 at Saint Michaels. This is a free marriage conference for active duty military and their spouses who have been deployed or will be deployed.

Stacie Umbarger, CYSS, the SKIES unlimited director, said the APG Youth Sports Program will hold British Soccer Camp, July 27 thru 31 at the APG Soccer Field. Ages 5 to 14 can attend half-day, ages 9 to 14 can attend a full day. For more information, call Bill Kegley, 410-306-2297 or 410-322-8991, or e-mail william.kegely@us.army.mil. For more information, visit www.challengersports.com.

This summer weeklong SKIES unlimited summer camps will also be offered for children. Call Umbarger for more information, 410-298-4589.

Beckett announced that the next Well-Being Council meeting will be held 9:30 a.m., June 18, at the main Post Chapel.

LEAVE DONATIONS

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). For more information, call Carolyn Russell, 410-278-5327, fax 410-272-9176, or e-mail carolyn.russell2@us.army.mil.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Neoma Amberman	Gregory Fox	Richard Morris
Debra Bonsall (daughter has brain tumor)	Marilyn Grebe	Marie D. Nowak
Jeanie Bowman	Erin Griffin	Cindy Orwig
Georgia Braun	Linda Hindman	Mary Pettitway
Alberta Brown	Beverly King (caring for husband)	Gloria Scott
Michelle Brooks	Kari Jackson	Donna Sexton
Kimberly Carns	Sinclair Joe	Ron Spencer
Joyce Clark	Janet Kipp	Willie Stevenson
John Daigle	Lillian Mantilla	Lavonne Telsee
Bonnie Day	Joy Meadows	Darlene Treston
Meg Downey	Frantz Midy	Jamie Turner
Wayne Erb	Karen Milton	Barbara Zenker
Rita Fowler	Deborah Moore	

PRs

From page 5

For the purchase of base support and services for core customers; equipment-in-place; range testing of vehicles, equipment, ammunition; lease, rental, and maintenance of equipment; full food services; and environmental services.

- AEC Team: For the purchase of all services covering cleanup work in support of the U.S. Army Environmental Command’s mission contact Alison Gannon, alison.gannon@us.army.mil, 410-436-1661.

For assistance, go to <https://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/installation/contracting.cfm> and click on “Customer Corner.” It includes guides, templates, formats and helpful Web sites.

Purchase requests awarded “subject to

the availability of funds” must be funded as soon as funds become available. The work must start and the contractors must be paid – this is not accomplished until the funds are certified.

Preparation of PRs

When preparing PRs in PRWEB:

Do not use any dashes or spaces in the PR number.

When preparing attachments for any electronic document to be used by contracting, submitters must use Normal, Times New Roman, 10. The contracting writing system used by Contracting cannot format correctly if a font other than Normal, Times New Roman, 10 is used or if any special characters are used in the document.

Do not use page breaks, section breaks, column brakes or special characters such as trademark signs, tm, ®, <, etc., in any document that will be used in a purchase order or contract.



FAMILY AND MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities/Events

Ruggles Golf Course grand re-opening features 3 days of giveaways, golf events, open to the public

June 19

Demonstration Day, 12:30 to 7:30 p.m. events include a ribbon cutting ceremony at 1:30 p.m. The Sutherland Grill will provide food and refreshments. A complimentary 9-hole Golf Scramble will be held 2:30 p.m.; a tasting event 5 to 7 p.m.; and a Long Drive Contest on the driving range, 6:30 p.m.

June 20

Complimentary tips from the pro's takes place 7:45 to 8:45 a.m. There will be a two-Man Scramble Outing, 9 a.m.; Shotgun Putting Contest for \$1 million hole-in-one prizes; four technical prizes – Longest Drive, Closest to Pin. Sutherland Grill will provide continental breakfast and lunch. U.S. Open golf coverage will be displayed on HD TVs.

June 21

Golf with Dad special

Recognize dad this year by bringing him to Ruggles Golf Course for a morning of golf. Cost for private through sergeant (active duty) is \$50 per person; sergeant 1st class through captain (active duty) is \$60 per person; and for all other authorized patrons is \$65. Prices include greens fee, golf cart and Sunday Brunch, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., provided by Top of the Bay. Sunday Brunch costs \$20 for adults, \$10 for children ages 5 to 12 and children ages 5 and under eat free.

Sunday Brunch includes an omelet station; scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, waffles or French toast; carving station with ham and beef; two vegetables, starch, salad and dessert. Refreshments will be provided by the clubhouse.

For more information or to RSVP by June 11, call 410-278-4794, or e-mail debra.long1@us.army.mil.

Occoquan Spring Festival

Visit the annual Historic Occoquan

Spring Arts and Crafts Festival, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., June 7, located on 200 Mill Street, Occoquan, Va., in northern Virginia. Cost is \$39 per person and includes roundtrip bus transportation. Join in the tradition of the Arts and Crafts Show featuring more than 350 juried artists and craft vendors, food and live entertainment.

Build a Better Budget Workshop

Army Community Service will hold a Build a Better Budget Workshop, 6 to 7:30 p.m., June 24, at ACS building 2754. The workshop is free.

For more information or to RSVP by June 22, call Arcelio V. Alleyne, 410-306-2450.

Amateur Boxing Night June 20

Better than the 'Thrilla in Manila.' See the 16th Ordnance Battalion and the 143rd Ordnance Battalion hit the ring June 20 at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center, building 3330. Doors open 6 p.m., the event begins at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 for active duty military; \$10 for nonmilitary; and \$20 for ringside seats. Children under 6 are admitted free.

This event is open to the public. Purchase tickets at FMWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or Stark Recreation Center, building E4140, 410-436-2713.

Job vs. Career classes for teens

Army Community Service will hold Job vs. Career Classes for teens ages 13 through 18, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., June 24 and July 29, at ACS, building 2754.

Today's workforce offers many challenges and rewards. Learning has a tremendous impact on future earnings. Teens will learn the benefit of a career over a job. The class will help guide teens through the job and career preparation process so they can achieve their own employment success.

Topics include:

- What employers are looking for
- How to apply for a job
- Tips on resume writing, interviewing experience

For more information or to enroll in this free class, call Marilyn Howard, ACS Employment Readiness specialist, 410-278-9669.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON, APG NEWS
Aberdeen Area Child Development Center care givers Ana Arana, far left, with Amelia Cruse-Kingston, 8-months-old; Cheryl Rorie, center, with Sarah Kilby, 11-months and Isaac Pearson, 9 months; and Frannie Coleman with six little passengers, smile as they participate in the Month of the Military Child parade in front of the CDC in April.

APG children celebrate Army Birthday

Aberdeen and Edgewood Area Child Development Centers and Child, Youth and School Services have planned parades, cakes, stories and more to celebrate the Army's 234th birthday.

AA CYSS will hold a "Start Smart" baseball game vs. parents, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., June 15.

The Aberdeen Area CDC will hold a Family picnic during lunch hour, June 18; an invited reader will read the Army Birthday story to the children from rooms 9, 10 and 11, 3:30 p.m.; join in singing happy birthday with a birthday cake; children will parade with the band around the front loop of the building.

AA Youth Services will celebrate the Army Birthday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.,

June 13, at the Summer Camp Open House. Books will be distributed and cake and ice cream will be served.

The Edgewood Area CDC and CYSS combined activities include reading a book about the Army birthday (date to be determined); a parade from CDC to Youth Services, 3 p.m., June 17 and includes a ceremonial cake cutting and celebration. Youth Services children will have a parade, music and a "review line" for the children to parade through and includes flags and cheering.

For more information, call Vaun Smith, 410-278-2572, e-mail vaun.smith@us.army.mil or Angie Grinage, 410-278-7576, e-mail angie.grinage@us.army.mil.

SKIES Unlimited

For more information or to register for a SKIES Unlimited class, call the Central Registration Office, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479. Open to all DoD ID card holders. For an appointment, e-mail stacie.umbarger@conus.army.mil.

Tiny Tigers Tae Kwon Do

Children ages 3 to 5 (parent participation required) can join the Tiny Tigers Unity Tae Kwon Do School of Martial Arts at APG. Tae Kwon Do builds confidence and self-esteem in our young students.

Classes will be held at the Child, Youth and School Center, building 2522, Monday and Wednesday, 5:30 to 6 p.m., July 6 through Aug. 12. Cost is \$40 per parent/child pairing.

Students must wear a white T-shirt and sweat pants. Class size is limited to 12 parent and child pairings so register early.

Private piano lessons

SKIES Unlimited private piano lessons will be given for ages 4 thru 18, 1:30 to 6:30 p.m., on Mondays,

June 29 through Aug. 10 (no class July 13). Lessons cost \$102 per student and include six weeks of 30-minute lessons once a week. Parents choose which time frame session they want to sign-up for when they register their child. Students are responsible for purchasing the required books for the course recommended by the instructor.

SAT preparation classes offered

Child, Youth and School Services will hold Scholastic Aptitude Test preparation classes, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., July 20 through 24, at CYSS Administrative Offices, building 2752 Rodman Road for students in grades 9 through 12.

Open to all DoD ID card holder Family members.

Students can be a step ahead for the SAT. Classes will assist students in sharpening the verbal skills needed for being successful when taking the SAT. The class also prepares students for the SAT math exam, covering basic math skills including algebra

and geometry. Problem solving, reasoning and test-taking techniques will also be covered.

Classes cost \$175 per student and includes textbook.

To register or to make an appointment, call the Central Registration Office, 410-278-7571/7479, building 2752.

Ice skating lessons

SKIES Unlimited offers comprehensive group lesson program ice skating lessons for ages 4 through 18. Classes will be held 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Tuesdays, July 2 through Aug. 11 at Ice World in Abingdon.

Ice World's philosophy is to provide top notch, professional instruction for beginner through advanced skaters in a relaxed and fun environment. Learn to Skate is based on the fundamentals of the United States Figure Skating Association and is necessary for those wishing to proceed on to ice hockey or freestyle.

Each session includes six weeks of professional instruction; each session is 30 minutes long with 30-min-

ute practice and weekly free skate rentals. Class sizes are limited and are grouped by age and ability. Three free passes to public sessions are included.

Ice skating classes cost \$110 per student. There will be no make-up classes or refunds.

Infant/Child First Aid, CPR Class

An Infant/Child First Aid and CPR class will be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., for ages 13 and older, June 18, building 2752, Child and Youth Services administration building. The class costs \$5 per person.

Looking for a job?

Visit FMWR Jobs Available at www.apgmwr.com.

All jobs for Aberdeen Proving Ground are listed at <http://acpol.army.mil/employment/naf.htm> or check out AAFES Jobs link <http://odin.aafes.com/employment/> for additional job opportunities.

Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park is open

The Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park is open 2 to 8 p.m. on weekends only thru June 7. The park also will be open on weekends only Aug. 29 and 30 and Sept. 5 thru 7.

Summer hours will be 4 to 8 p.m., Monday, Thursday and Friday, June 13 thru Aug. 23; 2 to 8 p.m., Saturday, Sunday and holidays. The park is closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The park will close for the summer Sept. 7.

Amusements include go-kart rides, miniature golf, batting cages and arcade room. A snack bar is available and includes soda, bottled water, candy and sno-cones.

Patrons must be 10 years of age

and 54 inches or taller to ride go-karts alone. They must meet both requirements and cannot drive if only fulfilling one requirement. Those patrons who are unable to drive go-karts solo can ride as a passenger with another individual who is age 16 or older.

Patrons must be 7 years of age to use Batting Cages.

Go-kart rides cost \$6 for five minutes

Batting cage tokens cost \$.50 for 10 pitches

Miniature golf costs \$3 per person for 18 holes, for age 6 and older

Miniature golf costs \$1 per person for 18 holes, for age 5 and younger

New arrivals required to attend Newcomers' Orientation

All newly arriving Soldiers and civilian employees are required to attend the APG Newcomers' Orientation, 1 to 3 p.m., June 17 at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326. Sponsors are encouraged to bring their Family members, and all members of the APG community are welcome to attend.

More than 50 APG community activities and organization representa-

tives will welcome arrivals with handouts and literature and will answer questions regarding their programs.

Each unit/activity is requested to report the number of attending personnel to Phyllis Ethridge, Army Community Service, building 2754, 410-278-9669/7572, fax 410-278-9685 or e-mail phyllis.ethridge@us.army.mil.

June bowling specials

• In June, bowl 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, for \$1.25 per game plus \$2 for shoe rental or rent the lane for \$10 per hour, with shoe rental included.

• Buy a combo meal from the snack bar, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday and get a free game. Shoe rental is not included.

• From 5 p.m. to closing, bowling costs \$2 per game plus \$2 for shoe rental or rent the lane for \$12 per hour, with shoe rental included.

• Cosmic Soldier specials on June 6, 13 and 27 include one hour of bowling, one whole cheese pizza special and a pitcher of soda for \$32. Receive four free bowling passes when purchasing this special, to be used at a later date.

• Early Father's Day gift: All dads

bowl one free game of bowling, 4 p.m. to closing, June 20. All dads must be accompanied by at least one child. Games cost \$2.75 per game plus \$2 for shoe rental. Dad's shoes are free. Hourly bowling cannot be used with this offer.

Bowling party packages are available.

Youth bowling leagues are now forming. The league will bowl every Friday evening, July 10 through Aug. 21. For more information or to register, call the Bowling Center, 410-278-4041.

The Bowling Center hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday thru Thursday; 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday; and 4 to 10 p.m., Saturday. The Bowling Center is closed on Sundays.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials Building 2342

Week of June 1

Special #1: Grand daddy sub with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$7.95.

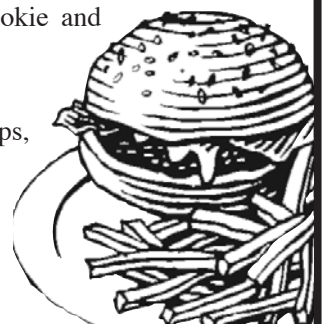
Special #2: Italian sausage with french fries, cookie and regular soda for \$5.25.

Week of June 8

Special #1: Chicken tender wrap with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$4.75.

Special #2: Turkey club sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$6.95.

For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.



Van Pelt

From front page

development,” he said.

“One thing that has been interesting and significant is the concept of ‘getting left of the boom,’” Van Pelt said.

“The boom is the explosion. Right of the boom, after the explosion, is consequence management, force protection, doing post-blast analysis – how you mitigate the effects of what has occurred,” he explained.

“But all of us are now thinking ‘How do we get left of the boom?’ That means not only defusing the IED [improvised explosive device] before it goes off, but, beyond that, attacking the bombers, the networks, the linkages, the bomb makers and getting left of the boom and defeating that portion of it.

“Our EOD [explosive ordnance disposal] guys have made a lot of contributions -- from post-blast analysis when they get the material, or when they defuse the IED and they bring it back to the exploitation center and try to get fingerprints and DNA. ‘Where have we seen this circuit board made before? Let’s get a linkage here -- and attack the bomb network.’

“Our guys have made tremendous contributions in that regard,” he said.

“The capabilities we’ve nested under one commander in 20th SUPCOM has really been needed, and makes sense

operationally and strategically,” he said.

“I’ve been in units where you’re taking things apart or seeing ideas change and things dissipate. This has been a phenomenal experience, being part of something that I believe is important for the nation and our military and our homeland.

“So as I leave the Army, I’ll look back and say that was a highlight,” he said.

In his wake Van Pelt leaves many friends and colleagues who have admired his leadership, his attention to detail and his genuinely friendly nature.

“Colonel Van Pelt is the main reason I selected Chemical Branch,” said Lt. Col. Chad Bauld, 20th SUPCOM operations officer. “He was my tactical officer at the U.S. Army Military Academy and is an outstanding leader. He has been a mentor of mine for eighteen years. He is the consummate professional, coach, teach, mentor, leader and friend.”

“[He is] genuine, caring, devoted to Army, military and Family as demonstrated by his actions and congruent words,” said Air Force Col. Terese LeFrancois, a member of the Joint Elimination Coordination Element. “His knowledge and sharing of historic events and outward display of patriotism are always welcome, personable and heartwarming. He is truly a fine officer, gentleman, Soldier, and a wonderful person at heart.”

“He always made you feel welcome in his office. He has an informal way about him. While he always has a smile

on his face and would stop by for informal chats and put his feet up on the desk, you knew he meant business and was talking from experience,” said Maj. Joseph Scrocca, public affairs officer.

“Colonel Van Pelt genuinely cared about his co-workers,” said executive administrator Kim Cottrell. “He was always there with an open door if you needed to talk. I will miss him greatly.”

Van Pelt said selfless service and sacrifice were learned at home.

“I come from a Family of public servants including my dad and every one of my uncles. I grew up in an Irish Catholic Family on Staten Island, New York,” he explained. “My grandfather was a fire captain. My dad was a World War II Sailor and then a captain in the corrections department. Two of my uncles were New York City police sergeants and another uncle was a New York City fireman. All of them were in the military during World War II or right after. I have a couple of cousins who are also firemen.

“So I got a sense of service streak through the Family. And, I just like being in the Army. I like being around Soldiers. I like training with them, teaching them, coaching them, mentoring them, learning from them. I love learning about their lives, what their aspirations are, what they’re trying to do. I love the business of Soldiering.

“I’ve always had a sense of honorable service,” he continued. “I’m not a West

Point graduate but I spent a few years there as a tactical officer and the mantra of ‘Duty. Honor. Country. And Selfless Service’ -- You can’t go wrong if you keep those things in the front of your mind. And the other thing you keep in mind is ‘Accomplish the mission; and take care of Soldiers.’”

As a good leader most always does, Van Pelt has sincere praise for his leadership.

“A great thing is having commanders like Brigadier Generals Kevin Wendel and Jeffrey Snow. They are true believers that organizations ought to be learning organizations -- that we ought to adapt, grow, transform and innovate,” he said.

“Frankly, I feel pretty good about the changes and transformation taking place in the command. Our ability to focus on the commander’s priorities has enabled us so that we’re not just spinning our wheels in the dirt,” he said.

The Van Pelt Family will remain in the Aberdeen Proving Ground area.

Dianne, the colonel’s wife of 30 years, is a reading specialist with Harford County Schools. They have three daughters. Emily, 23, recently completed her master’s degree at Virginia Tech University and plans to wed later this summer. Carolyn, 21, will enter her senior year at Virginia Tech in pursuit of a degree in international affairs, global development and business, and Elizabeth, 17, will be a senior at Fallston High School next year.

Military

From front page

Record and the APG News.

Weissman gave remarks for Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, who was called away to attend the funeral of a Maryland Soldier who was killed in Iraq.

“It is not only an obligation but a sacred honor to show proper respect of those who gave the ultimate sacrifice to protect our way of life,” Weissman said.

Noting recent changes and events at APG, Weissman talked about the completed Route 715 Gate and the Armed Forces Day celebration held May 16, which saw the installation open its gates to the community for the first time since 9-11.

He talked about the challenges facing Soldiers and Families and that despite being at war nearly 300,000 enlisted or reenlisted in the Army last year.

“This is a strong testimony to our Army’s strength, a strength reflected in our Army values and demonstrated by our NCO [noncommissioned officer] leadership,” Weissman said.

Noting that the Secretary of the Army designated 2009 as the Year of the NCO, Weissman said he learned early in his career that the NCO was his best friend.

“NCOs serve as the brain, heart and guts of the Army,” he said before asking for a standing ovation “for the NCOs with us today.”

Touching on the ongoing Transformation, Weissman said the post is looking at a net increase of about 4,000 positions and that the C4ISR Phase I construction is on schedule. Other planned expansions include a new Child Development Center; upgrading of Shore Park; the near completion of the new club house at Ruggles Golf Course; upgrades to the Route 24 Gate in the Edgewood Area and the Route 22 Gate in the Aberdeen Area as well as the enhancement of a number of roads and intersections.

In addition, construction on the new U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command headquarters is slated to begin before the end of the year along with the expansion of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense complex and the construction of the headquarters for the Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense in the Edgewood Area.

New business initiatives include the Residential Community Initiative which will enable the privatization of Family housing units through Picerne Military Housing.

Returning to the task at hand, Weissman said the day’s goal was to recognize, celebrate and honor the men and women of the armed forces.

“I’m proud to call myself one of them,” he said, “and I thank each and every one of them for their service and sacrifice.”

Assisted by Garrison Command Sgt Maj. Pedro Rodriguez, Weissman presented awards to the 2009 APG Service Members of the Year.

The program ended with the presentation of Military Appreciation Week proclamations and the retiring of the colors by the 61st Ordnance Brigade color guard.

The Harford County Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee expressed thanks to the following:

APG Federal Credit Union; Army Alliance; Battelle; Booz Allen Hamilton; City of Aberdeen; City of Havre de Grace; Clarion Hotel of Aberdeen; Country Inn and Suites; Frederick Ward



APG Garrison Commander Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, far right, applauds after presenting awards to the 2009 APG Service Members of the Year during the Military Appreciation luncheon at Top of the Bay May 21. From left, Sgt. Maj. Juanita Krueger, 1st Area Medical Laboratory stands in for APG NCO of the Year Sgt. Elizabeth D. Thompson who was on temporary duty; APG Soldier of the Year Sgt. Benjamin U. Salazar, Company B, 22nd Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort); Sgt. Abigail D. Lentz, U.S. Marine Corps Detachment NCO of the Year and Tech. Sgt. Steven W. Mountz, U.S. Air Force Detachment NCO of the Year.

Associates, Inc.; Freedom Federal Credit Union; H.C. Office of Economic Development; IEM, Inc.; Log.Sec Corporation; Ramada Conference Center; Rite Aid Corporation; RKS Realty, Inc.; SAIC; Smiths Detection; Town of Bel Air and Upper Chesapeake Health.

2009 Service Members of the Year

Awardees included Sgt. Elizabeth D. Thompson, the APG Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, 1st Area Medical Laboratory; Sgt. Benjamin U. Salazar, APG Soldier of the Year, Company B 22nd Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort); Tech Sgt. Steven W. Mountz, U.S. Air Force Detachment NCO of the Year; and Sgt. Abigail D. Lentz, U.S. Marine Corps Detachment NCO of the Year.

Sgt. Elizabeth D. Thompson
1st Area Medical Laboratory

Thompson was born and raised in California. She graduated from Rio Americano High School in Sacramento and attended the University of the Pacific in Stockton for two years before enlisting in the Army.

She entered in October 2004, first completing basic combat training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and then completed Preventive Medicine Specialist training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Her first assignment was with the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine – Europe in Landstuhl, Germany, where she deployed twice to Kosovo and once to Romania on NATO humanitarian missions.

She has served at APG as a preventive medicine specialist in the Occupational and Environmental Health section of the 1st Area Medical Laboratory since July 2007.

Thompson is a member of the Women’s All Army Volleyball team and the Women’s All Armed Forces Volleyball team.

Thompson said her short term goals are to be promoted to staff sergeant and to obtain a bachelor’s degree in sociology. Her long term goal is to obtain a master’s degree and become a warrant officer in the field of aviation.

Thomson said she takes pride in her work and what it means to the Army mission. She said it is the preventive medicine specialist who inspects food and water slated for Soldier consumption and monitors environmental factors affecting their living and work areas.

“Preventive medicine specialists work behind the scenes, and that is why our job is often unnoticed, but that doesn’t make it any less important,” she said. “Preventive medicine is essential to

maintain the fighting strength and health of our Soldiers.”

Thompson said she was honored to be the installation’s NCO of the Year in the Year of the NCO.

“It is truly an honor, and I hope that I can represent the installation, the NCO Corps and [other] strong female NCOs in a positive manner,” she said.

Sgt. Benjamin U. Salazar
Company B, 22nd Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort)

Salazar hails from Hayward, Calif. He joined the Army in March 2005 and served with Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 377th Field Artillery in Fort Richardson, Alaska, prior to coming to APG in June 2008.

Salazar was an E-4 specialist when he competed for Soldier of the Year honors and has since been promoted to E-5. As far as serving during the Year of the NCO, he said he thought the timing could not have been better.

“I feel honored I was given the opportunity to represent my peers and fellow NCOs,” he said. “I feel privileged that during the Year of the NCO I can have the opportunity to bring credit upon the corps and to be an example to many.”

Salazar is a chemical operations specialist.

He said that while he’s known several NCOs who influenced him, one who stands out is Staff Sgt. Clarence Raby, a squad leader from his first unit.

“He taught me basic Soldiering and made me more proficient in areas outside my MOS [military occupational specialty],” Salazar said.

Another NCO mentor was Staff Sgt. Marcus Dukes, he added.

“Working in a field artillery unit as a chemical specialist, it’s easy to be overlooked,” he said. “He kept me motivated about the Chemical Corps, and he is the reason I reenlisted to stay in the Chemical Corps. There are many more I could acknowledge but those two were the reasons for my success, and they are still influencing me today.”

Sgt. Abigail D. Lentz
USMC Detachment

Lentz is from Lehi, Utah. She enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1999. Along with her initial training at Parris Island, S.C., and at Camp Geiger, N.C., she trained at APG in the Electro-Optical Ordnance Repair course before being sent to Okinawa, Japan.

Subsequent assignments include Camp LeJeune, N.C. - where she met her husband and where her daughter Chloe was born - and Marine Corps Base

Hawaii where she entered the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program and attained the rank of Black Belt instructor.

Lentz returned to APG in July 2007. She teaches fire control alignments, troubleshooting and repair of optical and electronic sights for light armored vehicles and artillery in the Electro-Optical Ordnance Repair Course.

She said she was honored to be recognized by her superiors and peers in the Year of the NCO.

“This recognition means that I represent all of the NCOs of the detachment, who continuously put forth maximum effort to ensure the mission is accomplished,” Lentz said. “I have many jobs in the Marine Corps. As an instructor, my job is to give Marines a solid foundation to build on in their career. My most important job, as an NCO, is to give Marines a broad spectrum of knowledge, both technical and tactical, to prepare them for whatever mission the Marine Corps has for them.”

Tech. Sgt. Steven W. Mountz,
USAF Detachment

Mountz is originally from Mt. Holly Springs, Pa. He graduated from Boiling Springs High School and entered the Air Force in 1995. After graduating from the Metals Technology Basic Course at APG, he was assigned to McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey. Subsequent assignments include Kadena Air Force Base in Okinawa, Japan, McChord Air Force Base in Washington and Lajes Field in Azores, Portugal.

Mountz requested a return to APG and has been an instructor supervisor in Aircraft Metals Technology with the 361st Training Squadron/Detachment 1.

“I felt like I had plenty of experience to share with the next generation of metal technologists,” Mountz said.

He said that being selected as the NCO of the Year for the detachment is an honor he shares with his fellow NCOs and that the Army’s Year of the NCO feels like any other year to NCOs who are doing their jobs.

“It doesn’t feel [different because] I am still busy being an NCO, and I’m surrounded by some of the best NCOs in the Air Force, Marine Corps and Army,” he said.

He said what is important is that troops see the NCO’s commitment, that leaders can continue to count on the NCO Corps and that NCOs mentor their newest members with integrity, honor and professionalism.

“This is a year of recognition but it doesn’t change what needs to get done and what we as NCOs will always do,” he said.



Legally Speaking



Office of the Staff Judge Advocate at http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/installation/Staff_Judge/index.html

TRICARE beneficiaries required to file for recovery for costs of independent care

Story by
KIRK KNOCKETT
OSJA

The United States is required to recover the value of medical care furnished to service members, retirees and their Family members when an independent source of payment exists rather than disbursing funds from the U.S. Treasury (tax dollars).

TRICARE beneficiaries are required to report all incidents which may lead to successful recovery and cooperate with the investigation and recovery efforts. Beneficiaries who fail to cooperate may find that TRICARE will (1) not reimburse private healthcare providers for care provided outside a military treatment facility and (2) deny beneficiaries future medical services.

Recovery can be directly from a person who has wrongfully or negligently caused injury to a TRICARE beneficiary or from another source (third party) who may be legally obligated to pay for the care such as an automobile, property liability, or supplemental health insurance provider or a worker's compensation fund.

The United States is also required to recover the value of any damage to U.S. property not caused by its employees and resulting from another's wrongful or negligent conduct.

The following are all examples of incidents that would require the United States to recoup expenses:

- A service member crossing the street is struck and injured by an inattentive driver who runs a red light. The service member requires one week of hospitalization and three months of physical therapy at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. The United States can recover from the negligent driver directly or from the driver's insurance company.
- A military retiree now working for a private construction firm is injured when scaffolding collapses at work. The retiree requires an emergency room visit and follow-up care at KUSAHC. The United States can recover from the construction company through the company's proper-

ty liability insurance or from a worker's compensation fund.

- A retired service member's child is assaulted by a fellow student at the local high school and requires an emergency room visit and follow up care at KUSAHC. The United States can recover directly from the child who wrongfully assaulted the TRICARE beneficiary or from that child's legal guardian.
- A private citizen (not a U.S. employee) carelessly depresses the gas pedal instead of the brake pedal when entering post to attend a summer concert and strikes a security booth causing \$15,000 in damages to U.S. property. The United States can recover from the negligent driver directly or from the driver's insurance company.

The Client Services Division, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, is responsible for investigating and pursuing claims for all care received as a result of an intentional or negligent injury to a U.S. Army TRICARE beneficiary and property damage claims arising in northern Maryland and the entire state of Delaware. The staff of the Client Services Division works closely with KUSAHC and TRICARE representatives, service member and retiree beneficiaries and property accountability officers to identify and aggressively pursue potentially compensable events.

Successfully recovered expenses not only reduce the need for disbursements from the U.S. Treasury, they also benefit service members, retirees and Family members directly.

In the case of care provided at KUSAHC, recovered expenses are directly deposited into an account which may be used for the operation and maintenance of the medical treatment facility. That means that every successfully recovered dollar goes right back to the health clinic and is available to improve the quality of the services provided.

In the first half of the 2009 fiscal year, the Client Services Division recovered more than \$79,516 of which \$17,516

was returned to KUSAHC.


As discussed earlier, service members and retirees are required to report all incidents which may lead to successful recovery, and cooperate with investigation and recovery efforts or face denial of reimbursement for care sought outside a military treatment facility and denial of future medical services.

Department of Defense Form 2527 Statement of Personal Injury, Personal Injury, (January 2008) should be used to report all incidents. Injured service members and retirees should not execute a

release or settle any claims without first coordinating with the staff of the Client Services Division to determine how that might effect the recovery process.

Any TRICARE beneficiary injured as a result of someone's intentional or negligent act or has information regarding an incident in which a non-United States employee damaged government property, should notify the staff of the Client Services Division immediately by calling 410-278-1583 or report the incident in person at the OSJA office on the third floor of building 4305, Susquehanna Avenue.

Trial Results



- Pvt. Miranda Taylor, assigned to Company B, 16th Ordnance Battalion, 61st Ordnance Brigade, pled guilty to two specifications of Article 86, Failure to go to Appointed Place of Duty, one specification of Article 92, Failure to Obey a Lawful Order, and one specification of Article 112a, Wrongful Use of a Controlled Substance, in a summary court-martial May 8. The summary court-martial officer found Taylor guilty and sentenced her to confinement for 30 days and forfeiture of \$933 pay per month for one month.
- Spc. Marques G. McClorin, assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade, pled guilty to one specification of Article 107, False Official Statement, two specifications of Article 121, Wrongful Appropriation, and two specifications of Article 121, Larceny, at a special court-martial held May 13. The military judge sentenced McClorin to a reduction in rank to private E1, confinement for eight months and a Bad Conduct Discharge.
- Pvt. Christopher Hall, assigned to Company B, 16th Ordnance Battalion, 61st Ordnance Brigade, pled guilty to two specifications of Article 86, Failure to go to Appointed Place of Duty, one specification of Article 92, Failure to Obey a Lawful Order, one specification of Article 112a, Wrongful Use of a Controlled Substance, two specifications of Article 128, Assault, and one specification of Article 134, Restriction Breaking, at a summary court-martial May 14. The summary court-martial officer found Hall guilty and sentenced him to confinement for 30 days and forfeiture of \$466 pay for one month.
- Pvt. Jay Edwards, assigned to Company B, 16th Ordnance Battalion, 61st Ordnance Brigade, pled guilty to two specifications of Article 86, Failure to go to Appointed Place of Duty, at a summary court-martial May 14. The summary court-martial officer found Edwards guilty and sentenced him to a reduction in rank to private E1, confinement for 30 days, and forfeiture of \$933 pay for one month.

All courts-martial proceedings were held at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

DoD Education Activity changes DDESS enrollment policy for fallen warrior Family

Department of Defense Education Activity

The Department of Defense Education Activity announced it has changed a policy regarding the education of the Family members of Fallen Military members.

The new policy states that currently-enrolled students in Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools who are dependents of a Fallen Military Member may continue in DDESS schools without limitation, regardless of their physical residence or upcoming school transition points. The policy change is effective immediately.

The prior policy allowed cur-

rently-enrolled DDESS students who were dependents of a Fallen Military Member to continue in DDESS schools until the end of the school year without any special permission. It allowed for students to stay in the DDESS until they would normally transition to another school level--i.e. elementary school to middle school or middle school to high school.

"This change in policy will mean so much to military Families who have had a loved one make the ultimate sacrifice for our nation," said Dr. Shirley Miles, director, DoDEA. "It gives me a great deal of peace to know that we are taking care of

the education of the Families of our fallen military members for as long as they need our assistance. It's the right thing to do."

After reflecting on the previous policy and with input from Families and commanders, DoDEA reevaluated the policy to ensure the organization was doing everything it could to assist Families who lost their loved one in service to the nation.

Continued enrollment requires a one-time parental request to the respective school. Yearly registration is required and students will need to meet all other requirements for enrollment -- student conduct stan-

dards, etc. The student's Family will have to assume responsibility for transportation.

DoDEA plans, directs, coordinates and manages the education programs for DoD dependents who would otherwise not have access to a high-quality public education. DoDEA consists of the Department of Defense Dependents Schools located overseas, and DDESS schools located in the United States and its territories and possessions. DDESS operates 64 schools on 17 installations, organized into five districts with a total of just over 2,300 education professionals

serving about 25,000 students.

There is a separate policy for dependents of Fallen Military Members enrolled in DoDDS. This policy allows the dependents of deceased active duty military members and DoD civilians to be able to enroll in DoDDS schools on a space available, tuition-free basis.

DoDEA provides education to eligible DoD military and civilian dependents from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. DoDEA also provides support and resources to Local Education Activities throughout the United States. that serve children of military Families.

Social Security recovery payments issued in May

Story by
JOY STALLARD
Social Security

Anyone receiving Social Security or Supplemental Security Income, or SSI, benefits, will receive a special one-time recovery payment of \$250 from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

All Social Security and SSI beneficiaries who are eligible for the special one-time recovery payment should have had their payment issued in May. The payment was automatic, so no action is required--there are no requests to make, no applications to complete and no fees to pay.

Anyone who receives a visit, call or e-mail from anyone claiming to want to help obtain your payment should be skeptical. Do not pay anyone to help; do not reveal any of personal information to them, such as full name, date of birth or Social Security number. If someone requests this information for this purpose, it's more likely they're "out to get you" than out to get the payment for you.

In addition to people who receive Social Security and SSI benefits, people who receive benefits from Veterans Affairs and the Railroad Retirement Board will receive one-time payments of \$250. Note, however, that only one payment of \$250 will be made per person,

regardless of any combination of benefits that may be received.

The recovery payment will be made the same way that regular monthly payments are made. People with direct deposit will receive their payments electronically. Those who receive paper checks will receive their payments in the mail. People who receive regular payments through the new Direct Express debit card will receive their one-time payments through the card. The one-time payment will be sent separately from the monthly Social Security or SSI benefit.

To assist in processing the payments as efficiently as possible, do not contact Social Security -- unless the payment is not received by June 4. If it is not received by June 4, contact Social Security, at the local office, or 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

More information is available at www.socialsecurity.gov/payment and will be updated as needed.

To learn more about the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, visit www.recovery.gov. To learn more about Social Security, visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

(Editor's note: Author is the Social Security Office district manager in Abingdon.)

Governor extends education benefits to members of the MDNG

Maryland Military Department

Governor Martin O'Malley signed into law May 7 two bills which will affect higher education benefits of members of the Maryland National Guard.

House Bill 1465, a departmental bill, authorizes the Maryland Military Department to provide tuition assistance for Guard members taking graduate, professional, vocational-technical and trade school courses at any University System of Maryland campus, any community college established under Title 16 of the Education Article, Morgan State University or St. Mary's College.

The governor signed Senate Bill 373, which enables MDNG members, who live in a different state, to pay in-state tuition at Maryland state schools. Introduced by Senator Ulysses Currie, District 25 (Prince George's County), the legislation requires Guard members to hold certain military occupational specialties to be eligible.

"These bills are essential recognition of the steadfast commitment of all Maryland National Guard members who serve this state," O'Malley said. "What these bills demonstrate is that no matter where you live, the state of Maryland is committed to furthering the education goals of those serving in

the Maryland National Guard."

The new laws can affect a large number of Guard members, according to the Maryland National Guard Education Office. Approximately 40 non-resident MDNG members are attending Maryland public universities, and an estimated 450 to 500 Soldiers and Airmen are likely to pursue advanced degrees within the next three years. Enabling out-of-state Guard members to pay in-state tuition is especially significant.

The current in-state tuition at the University of Maryland-College Park is \$8,005 per year compared with \$23,076 for non-residents. Both modifications provide new education opportunities for Maryland Guardsmen.

"This legislation will no doubt enhance our ability to recruit and retain Soldiers and Airmen and puts the Maryland National Guard on the same level playing field as other states which offer similar educational opportunities and benefits," said the Adjutant General for Maryland Brig. Gen. James A. Adkins.

In short, these new laws will make college more affordable for more Families.

The National Guard education bills are in line with O'Malley's focus on putting Families first, particularly now during the current economic downturn.



Health Notes

More on H1N1 from KUSAHC

Story by
DR. CHARLES E. MCCANNON
KUSAHC

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic has increased its surveillance of influenza-like illnesses.

The current definition is an illness with a fever greater than 100.5 degrees Fahrenheit, plus cough or sore throat. Anyone having these symptoms would not necessarily have to seek medical care, but should stay home from work, school, day care, social gatherings, etc., for 24 to 48 hours and they are symptom-free.

For anyone meeting the criteria of a suspected case of H1N1 influenza, health care providers will document appropriate

medical and travel history and conduct an appropriate physical exam, then laboratory samples will be obtained for testing.

Currently, a suspected case of H1N1 is defined as a person with acute febrile respiratory illness with onset:

- 1) within seven days of close contact with a person who is a confirmed case of H1N1 (“Swine Flu”) infection, or
- 2) within seven days of travel to a community within the United States or internationally where there are one or more confirmed cases of H1N1 (“Swine Flu”) infection, or
- 3) residing in a community where there are one or more confirmed cases of H1N1 infection.

Many individuals may have serious concerns about H1N1 infection in themselves, their children, or other loved ones, but it is not prudent to test for H1N1 influenza in persons who are at “no risk” or “low risk” for this infection.

Likewise, it is not prudent to take antiviral medications, such as Tamiflu® (Oseltamivir), for persons who do not have confirmed H1N1 influenza or confirmed exposure to H1N1 influenza. Since influenza is a virus and is not a bacteria, antibiotics are ineffective in treating influenza.

To prevent the spread of disease, frequent hand washing, using cough and sneeze etiquette and staying home if

sick, is recommended.

Persons should visit these Web sites for guidance on being prepared for H1N1 influenza and other emergencies:

- <http://www.acsim.army.mil/readymil/>
- <http://www.ready.gov/>

Persons should avoid Internet offerings of non-FDA approved “home test kit” for H1N1 or Swine Flu, as well as Internet offerings of “clinically proven” drugs or sprays that treat or prevent H1N1 influenza. This would include Internet purchase of antiviral medications such as Tamiflu®, since the integrity of pharmaceuticals obtained in this manner cannot be assured.

Commentary: Getting children to wash their hands

Story by
JENELLE L. FERGUSON
Installation Safety Office

It’s probably true about the saying: “Kids share germs quicker than they share toys.”

Whether it’s the girls sharing dolls and mud pies or the boys sharing insects and frogs, there’s one thing they all have in common ... spreading germs.

The primary purpose of washing hands is to stop the spread of disease. It is less challenging to persuade children to wash their hands after playing in dirt, because they can see it.

But try asking children to wash their hands after petting a puppy and see their resistance. Why? Because dirt (germs) isn’t visible from a puppy, thus making it more difficult to persuade them to wash their hands.

Health care providers advise parents to not just tell children to wash their hands, but to tell them why.

Children don’t like to be ill any more than anyone else. Telling them there are bugs they can’t see that can make them ill helps them to understand how to remove those invisible bugs.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends washing hands with soap and warm running water for 15 to 20 seconds.

Parents can encourage children to wash their hands by making it a fun thing to do:

- Place hand-washing reminders at children’s eye level will help them become consistent hand washers.
- To be sure that children wash long enough, sing hand washing songs, like “Row, Row, Row Your Boat,” the “Happy Birthday” song or singing their ABC’s.
- Parents should be a good role model and wash at regular intervals, e.g., upon waking up, before dinner, after handling a pet, etc.
- Make it a fun activity. Buy some foamy kids soap and make it fun so that it’s not a chore.

When it comes to spreading disease, people are at risk every time they touch their eyes, nose or mouth. Most people believe that the most common way to catch colds is from shaking hands with others, when actually it is when they touch any part of their face after the virus has gotten on their hands.

“Hand washing is primary in preventing the spread of communicable disease,” said Peg Trimboli, RN, Child, Youth and School Services health nurse. “Children need to wash their hands before and after they eat, after using the bathroom, when they come in from

playing, as well as after touching their mouth, nose or ears.”

Two types of soaps used for hand washing are solid soap, commonly known as bar soap, and the antibacterial soap that comes in a pump dispenser.

When using a public restroom, if bar soap is the only option, the soap itself can be washed before using because it may hold bacteria acquired from others

who used it before.

On the other hand, antibacterial soaps are the people’s choice because the chances of getting germs are diminished.

Proper and consistent hand washing is one of the easiest ways to prevent the spread of germs. Kids don’t always listen when they are told to wash their hands before eating or after playing, but it’s a message worth repeating.

Teaching children good health habits

- Sneeze or cough into the inside of the arms instead of the hands to help prevent spreading germs through hand contact.
- Reinforce habits of keeping hands and fingers out of the mouth, and avoid nail biting.
- Wet hands with water and apply an amount of soap recommended by the manufacturer.
- Don’t use very hot water. Really hot water can cause chapped hands, which will make it uncomfortable.
- Rub hands together for 20 seconds, covering all surfaces of the hands, giving added attention to fingernails and surfaces where jewelry is worn.
- Rinse hands.
- Dry thoroughly.



Staying afloat by following boating safety guidelines

Story by
CHRIS SOLLERS
Installation Safety Office

Summer time usually means boating time in Maryland. Many boaters say is the best way to relax.

There are differences about boating in the waters around Aberdeen Proving Ground as compared to the other waters of the Chesapeake Bay. There are many restricted areas in the waters contiguous to APG, essentially all of the creeks entering APG property are off limits with the exception of Swan Creek in the Aberdeen Area and the lower reaches of Lauderick Creek in the Edgewood Area.

The restricted water zone surrounding APG is normally open for navigation and fishing when not used for testing. Navigation includes anchoring a boat within the restricted water areas or using the restricted water areas for water-skiing provided no boat or person touches any land (either dry land or underwater land) within the proving ground reservation and that no water skier comes closer than 200 meters (220 yards) to any shoreline.

The proving ground operates a fleet of patrol boats which are positioned at the perimeter of the restricted water zone boundaries during testing operations. Loud speakers and flashing red or blue lights are installed on all patrol boats to make them easily identifiable. When in doubt, boaters should request assistance from APG patrol boats regarding navigation within the restricted water zone.

There are several rock piles in the waters around APG, and the Susquehanna Flats can be tricky for navigation. The best thing to do is to be familiar with the areas. If not, stay in the marked channels and be sure to have up to date charts. GPS systems are great but as with anything electronic, they can fail, usually at the worst possible times.

There are also general rules to live by as a boater in general. As the boating season continues there are many issues that boaters must be aware of.

- Anyone born after July 1, 1972, must attend a boater’s safety course. The Coast Guard recommends that everybody who plans to operate a boat attend a boat-

er safety course. Contact the Maryland DNR, the Power Squadron or U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary for course scheduling.

- Obtain all safety equipment and contact USCGA for a Vessel Safety Check.
- Carry a Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device, also known as life vests, for each person on board. At a minimum, assure all children under thirteen and non-swimmers wear PFD’s unless they are below decks or in a cabin.
- Inform all guests of location and use of safety equipment. Relate to guests expected behavior, both in general and in case of an emergency.
- Do not allow riding on the bow, gunwale, or transom at any time while under way.
- Develop a float plan and notify a responsible person where you are leaving from and returning to, where you plan to go, and when you plan to return.
- Obey all rules of the road, channel markers, speed limits and right-of-ways.
- Make sure more than one person on board is familiar with all aspects of the boat’s handling characteristics and other boating safety tips. If the primary navigator is injured or incapacitated in any way, it’s important to make sure someone else can follow boating safety rules to get everyone else back to shore.
- Be alert at all times, and steer clear of large vessels and watercraft that can be restricted in their ability to stop or turn.
- Do not drink or use recreational drugs while on the water.
- Always check local weather conditions for boating safety before departure. Television and radio forecasts can be a good source of information. Darkening clouds, volatile and rough changing winds, or sudden drops in temperature, usually indicate a storm.
- In the waters around APG, boaters will generally be heading in a westerly direction to return to port. Inclement weather usually comes from the west, so boaters will most likely be heading into any storms that may crop up while out on the water. Boaters should pay attention to the sky, occasionally monitor the VHF weather broadcasts VHF, and allow plenty of time to safe harbor.

Enjoy a safe boating season.



Adventures in driving decision making

Panic on the highway!

Installation Safety Office

“Adventures in driving decision making” is brought to everyone by the Installation Safety Office.

Test your driving expertise in the following situation and then from the options provided, select the best answer. The answers are printed upside down.

Situation #36

In this situation, you’re driving on a two-lane highway going 50 mph when unexpectedly a car coming from the opposite direction drifts over into your lane and is coming directly toward you. What should you do?

A. Blast horn, hard brake to slow, release and medium brake, and veer right onto shoulder.

B. Blast horn, hard brake to slow, release and medium brake, and veer left around the car.

ANSWER A. “Blast horn, hard brake to slow, release and medium brake, and veer right onto shoulder” is the safest course of action. Chances are this driver has either gone to sleep, is ill, or is drunk. Your honk will probably arouse him enough to get him back to his side of the road, but you must be prepared to move right if he doesn’t respond. And, of course, you want to get your speed down as much as possible so you maintain control when you go off the road.

ANSWER B. “Blast horn, hard brake to slow, release and medium brake, and veer left around the car” would be very risky. In this situation especially, a basic rule applies – go right, not left. Now, you may have thought to yourself, “If I don’t honk I won’t disturb him and I can go left.” Don’t count on it. He might come to, for any reason, and pull back into his lane. Keep right. Don’t play hunches. Play instincts. His instinct will be to go right (unless of course he is from England and forgot which side of the road to drive on).

APG youths hop, skip and spring into action

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground Youth Sports held its annual Spring Into Action Day on the fields of the Aberdeen Area Youth Center April 25. Spring Into Action is held in honor of the Month of the Military Child. Hundreds of children, teens and parents showed up for a day of fun and games that included parent and child team competitions and team photos.

Parents and children received complimentary T-shirts that read “If you believe you can achieve” on the front and “Everyday Heroes,” the MOMC theme, on the sleeves.

Events included a water balloon toss, home run derby, a fitness course, football throw, 800-meter run, 50-yard dash and three carnival games. Children wore their basketball, baseball, softball, football or cheerleading uniforms for team photos and participants received medals for first- and second-place finishes.

In addition, a health station displayed information on asthma and the importance of proper nutrition and exercise.

Bill Kegley, youth sports director, said the event was a huge success and thanked the staff members and volunteers who worked the registration tables, refreshments and games as well as APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Pedro Rodriguez who handed out raffles and awards during the event.

“I also want to thank Peggy Trimboli, the CYSS health nurse; Heidi Jackson, a pediatrician at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic; and Gale Sauer, the community health education specialist from Franklin Square Hospital for their efforts to educate our parents and children during this health and fitness event,” Kegley said.

Parents seemed to have had as much fun as the kids.

As 5-year-old Joseph Lousier played with his Tigers baseball teammates, his mother Sheila Lousier, and grandfather, Ray Pugh, a retired Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School instructor, watched from the side. Sheila Lousier, whose husband is deployed to Africa, said the event was just what Families need.

“It’s our first time out here, and we’re having a lot of fun. And most important, he’s [Joseph] loving every minute of it,” she said.

Staff Sgt. Eddy Nubine, a member of the U.S. Army Materiel Command Band whose sons play baseball and basketball, added that youth sports fill what would otherwise be a void in children’s lives.

“Events like this really add to the community because it gives the kids something to do,” he said.



Running back Montaiju Galtore, #7, evades defender Jake Kilmon, in white jersey, as teammates, Colin Norris, 33; Billy Kilmon, 80, and Anthony Haywood, 32, move in.



Softball player Nyssa Harris-Ceballos, far right, lets the water balloon come to her while the Aberdeen Chief's Anthony Haywood, #32, doesn't take any chances during the water balloon toss.



APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Pedro Rodriguez and Dawn Kilmon, in shades, hand out medals after the girls' 50-yard dash.



Kayleigh Devorak of the Edgewood Area cheerleading squad races to the finish during the 50-yard dash.



After Tigers coach Bob Haddix, left and assistant Brad Wise, right, give little Jonathan Wise, 4, some pointers on T-ball, he knocks the stuffing out of the ball and the stand.